

Begin plan for West Bank peace is shown to Mr Vance

A day of talks between Israeli ministers and Mr Cyrus Vance ended last night in a profusion of compliments. The American Secretary of State was apparently shown a formulation of the Israeli willingness to make concessions on the West Bank, but it will not be disclosed before the Cairo conference.

Israeli leader lavishes praise on US role

From Edward Mortimer
Jerusalem, Dec 11

Israel and the United States showered each other with compliments at a joint press conference given here tonight by Mr Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, and Mr Cyrus Vance, Secretary of State, after a day of talks between Mr Vance and senior Israeli ministers.

Mr Begin repeatedly thanked the United States for its help in bringing about "these momentous developments in the Middle East", and revealed that on the occasion of President Sadat's visit to Jerusalem, he had sent to President Carter a message saying: "This is an historic moment. You have created it... He even asserted that he would like the American Secretary of State to visit the area more often.

Mr Vance, who arrived from Cairo last night, was equally anxious to emphasize the "appreciation, gratitude and admiration" of President Carter for the breakthrough in Egyptian-Israeli relations and to refuse any suggestion that the United States was in any way put out by the fact that President Sadat had taken the initiative into his own hands.

The United States was anxious to be "supportive", he kept saying.

Mr Vance goes on to Amman tomorrow, then Damascus, Beirut and Riyadh, while his Assistant Secretary, Mr Alfred Atherton, will attend the Cairo conference opening on Wednesday.

Both Mr Begin and Mr Vance emphasized their interest in a comprehensive settlement of the Middle East conflict, as opposed to a bilateral settlement between Israel and Egypt. But behind Mr Begin's almost euphoric self-confidence one could sense a feeling of liberation that Israel no longer needs the United States as an intermediary in dealing with the largest Arab state.

Indeed, some Israelis in the past few days, less diplomatic than their Prime Minister, have not hidden their feelings about the Americans on the touchline, panting to keep up with the game.

Mr Begin is resolutely refusing to be jostled into speaking publicly about concessions in advance of the Cairo negotiations.

He appealed today to the press and television to "give a chance" to the negotiating process.

"Everything is negotiable", he said, "except, of course, the destruction of Israel. Negotiations will take place in Cairo, Geneva or Jerusalem, but with all due respect—not in front of the cameras of our mighty friends of the television."

Echoing an answer given by President Sadat in Cairo yesterday, Mr Begin said the purpose of the Cairo conference would be to discuss the basic principles of the treaties to be concluded eventually between Israel and all its neighbours.

It appears that this does not mean that they will be confined to Israel's preferred topic of "the nature of peace". They will also deal with borders, security arrangements, and, crucially, the Palestinian problem.

On this Mr Begin repeated what has become a set formula for him, expressing willingness to discuss "the problem of the Palestinian Arabs", and confidence that "we will find a solution". He refused, as usual, to be drawn on the question whether he stood by his election pledge not to withdraw from any part of the West Bank.

But it is understood that he and his colleagues have worked out a formulation of their willingness to make concessions on this issue, which the Israeli Cabinet will be asked to approve tomorrow. The delegates to the Cairo conference will be authorized to use it with a view to helping President Sadat to persuade other Arab parties to join the negotiations.

This formulation was evidently shown to Mr Vance, but it seems unlikely that he can have been authorized to pass it on to the other Arab governments he will be visiting in the next two days because this would mean that they would get it in advance of the Egyptians.

Mr Vance will hardly be equipped to force with concrete arguments to persuade those governments to join the negotiations. Only the results of the Cairo conference itself, or at least of its first stage, can hope to do that.

Photograph and Sadat interview, page 5

Motive for killing of reporter a mystery

By Our Diplomatic
Correspondent

Mr David Holden, the chief foreign correspondent of *The Sunday Times*, has been killed while on assignment in Egypt. His body was found in Nasr City, a suburb near Cairo airport, early on Wednesday, but was not identified until Saturday night. He had been shot in the back.

Although colleagues said yesterday they had no reason for supposing any political motivation for his murder, regarding Mr Holden as a journalist of scrupulous balance and fairness, the circumstances of his death are extremely unusual.

Crimes of violence against Europeans, as distinct from cases of robbery, are rare in Egypt, and very few Egyptians carry guns. Mr Holden had arrived by air from Jordan and never checked into his hotel. A correspondent of his experience would hardly have taken a taxi with an unregistered driver from the airport, or fallen into some kind of tourist trap.

The *Sunday Times* has sent two reporters to Cairo to try to find out what happened, and to arrange for his body to be brought home. His wife, Mrs Ruth Holden, who is also a journalist, was informed of his death on Saturday night, but there had been concern for his safety since Wednesday, when he failed to signal his arrival in Cairo.

No identification papers, luggage or money were found with the body, which was why it took more than three days before it was identified.

According to the official Middle East news agency, Mr Holden signed a currency declaration form on arrival at Cairo airport saying he was carrying \$200 (£110) in travellers' cheques, which he converted into Egyptian pounds.

General Nawab Ismail, Minister of the Interior, has assigned a special murder squad to the case and ordered them to report to him personally, the agency said.

In many years reporting on foreign affairs, Mr Holden, who was 53, acquired an unrivalled knowledge of Middle East life and politics. Paying tribute to his exceptional qualities as a foreign correspondent, Mr Frank Giles, deputy editor of *The Sunday Times* and former foreign editor, said yesterday that his outstanding virtue was his sense of fair play and cool judgement.

He was the kind of writer who always went into all sides of a story, and his reports had the particular distinction of being both straightforward and highly readable.

Mr Harold Evans, editor of *The Sunday Times*, said yesterday: "It was easy to like David Holden and even easier to admire him. He brought a rational mind to the complex and emotional problems of the Middle East."

"He covered many troubled and disputed areas of the world like Chile, South Africa, India and Greece, with the same lucidity, candour and regard for the lives of the ordinary people affected. He never followed a fashionable or predictable line."

Edward Mortimer writes from Jerusalem: I was with David Holden for a good part of what turned out to be the last week of his life. We met by chance in Damascus on November 29, travelled together by taxi to Amman on December 1, and on from there to Jerusalem across the Allenby bridge on December 4.

Growing protests about Moon cult activities

By Diana Parr

A sect that, among other things, teaches children to hate their natural parents and family has established at least forty centres in Britain. As protests about its activities to MPs, the Home Office and Charity Commissioners increase, it continues to recruit more converts.

The Unification Church, commonly known as the Moon cult, teaches that its leader, a South Korean businessman, Sun Myung Moon, is the Messiah and that he and his second wife are the "true parents" of all mankind.

Children, mainly students between the ages of 18 and 23, are encouraged to transfer their loyalties from their natural families to the larger family of the Unification Church. "Jesus taught that we should hate our father and mother and family and love him first", it proclaims.

Many parents feel that their children have been "brainwashed". They say they can no longer relate to relatives or friends.

Mr Michael Marshall, public affairs director for the Unification Church, says: "Brainwashing is a highly emotive word, a slur which we utterly reject and which reflects that in a materialistic society many people cannot or will not accept the reality of spiritual experience and the changes that are likely to occur when God enters a person's life in a powerful way. St Paul would probably be described as brainwashed if he had his Damascus experience today."

"Brainwashing charges have twice been tested in American court cases and both times rejected. Judge Belson in September, 1975, in the District of Columbia Superior Court ruled that there was no evidence to suggest that the Unification Church practised mind control or indeed any methods of proselytizing that were substantially different from those of other religious organizations."

"In the past three years several thousand people have attended our courses for a weekend or longer and no more than 10 per cent have joined church in any capacity. Where is the coercion then? Indeed, I have seen several full-time church members advised to live outside, either because they appeared unsuited to full church life, or to think out their commitment more deeply for themselves."

Mrs Grace Adamson, of Plymouth, whose son, Tony, joined the movement when he was 19, continued on page 4, col 2



A victory salute from Mr Fraser, the Australian Prime Minister, and his wife after his crushing defeat of the Labour Opposition in the general election. Report, page 5.

Debate today on Polish ships order

By Peter Hill

Britain's £115m deal to build ships for Poland is to be discussed in the Commons today in a debate initiated by the Opposition.

Mrs Thatcher and her colleagues have tried without success to elicit details of the agreement from ministers. Opposition concern arises from the amount of taxpayers' money about £28m, alleged to be involved in gaining the 24-vessel contract for Britain.

Ministers will say that the contract has secured the jobs of 8,000 shipyard workers at a time when the industry throughout the world is faced with over-capacity.

The Prime Minister, Mr Varley, Secretary of State for Industry and other ministers have refused to answer questions on the estimated cost of the deal to the taxpayer, the extent of penalty clauses for late delivery and other financial arrangements.

The ships will be built in Britain and owned by a joint company formed by Britain and Poland, which will charter them for 15 years to a Polish state shipping concern.

Leading article, page 15
Business News, page 19

Third baby dies at hospital

By Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

A future Conservative government will offer wide consultations going beyond employment and industrial affairs while "settling them free" from the Administration of the day, Mr P. J. Sheehy, a Conservative spokesman, said yesterday. "No topic should be barred from discussion."

Putting forward a document on policy to the Conservative trade unionists' political committee in London, he dismissed the notion that a cabinet led by Mrs Thatcher would inevitably be enmeshed in confrontation with the unions.

The socialists would say the Conservatives were the last people to talk about the role of the unions. Because Labour have nothing to offer they will repeat, parrot-like, all the clichés about Tories being unable to work with the unions, about confrontation and so on.

"What claptrap it is! The past few weeks have surely shown that any government can disagree with the unions. Mr Callaghan might call it 'friction' now and say that it was 'confrontation' when we were in office, but I do not know of many other people who can spot the difference."

Mr P. J. Sheehy agreed that any government could have trouble with particular unions, but he said there was good reason to believe that a future Tory government and the unions would be able to work together on some of the nation's main difficulties.

Conservative ministers will consult and discuss with the TUC and union leaders in the same way as they do with other important groups", he said.

This is the first political hint from the Tory party leadership to the unions that the party would be willing when in government to consult with the unions on issues in the social and economic sphere as well as on pay.

Mr Heath's effort to win the TUC's agreement to an pay failed in 1971 and again the next year, leading eventually to the catastrophic miners' strike that brought down his government.

The Tory approach, Mr P. J. Sheehy said, was not to tell any group in society what its members must or must not do. "This is why it is for the unions to ask what role they see for themselves in modern Britain."

Tories offer wider role to the trade unions

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Have an institutional relationship with organized labour on the lines of the TUC-Labour Party liaison committee but shorn of its socialist dimension.

"Only Conservative policies can set the unions and industry free from the Government and let them perform their proper roles in society", he said. "We are not a state party, a cadre of experts, or a party wedded to the interests of one group or class. We believe that government knows less about investment than investors and less about pay bargaining than union negotiators or employers."

Mr P. J. Sheehy, regarded in senior party circles as confirmation of the moderate path that the Conservatives have been treading, concluded with a promise that a conservative government would reward effort, skill and responsibility and encourage a "realistic and responsible" attitude by enabling people to keep more of what they earn.

"We shall be far more open about our economic objectives", he said, "and we shall be ready to help unions and management improve the present unsatisfactory methods of collective bargaining."

Mr Steel expects Labour majority for Europe PR

By George Clark
Political Correspondent

Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, said yesterday that it would be madness for his party to break the pact with Labour and the Conservatives on the issue of proportional representation (PR) to the European Parliament.

He knows that if a majority of Labour MPs do not vote for the regional list PR system in the Commons tomorrow, he may have to face a special conference of the Liberal Party at which a strong demand will be made to end the pact.

When interviewed yesterday on the independent television programme, *Weekend World*, Mr Steel seemed fairly confident that the requisite number of Labour MPs will vote for the PR system. But among backbenchers who oppose the back election Bill there is a strong belief that, even with the support of all so-called "loyal vote" consisting of ministers and parliamentary private secretaries, that target will not be reached.

Many Labour MPs, especially those on the left wing of the party, are following the guidance given by Mr Ronald Hayward, the general secretary of the party, two years ago and recently reaffirmed by him, that PR for the European elections would be the thin end of a wedge.

Continued on page 2, col 1

Firemen split over new peace plan

Only one member of the Fire Brigades Union (FBU) favoured the Government's new peace proposals at mass meetings in London at the weekend, a union executive member said. He added that he rejected an overwhelming rejection to the Government's peace proposals throughout Britain. The fire support to ministers so far in the dispute was given by Leicestershire members, who voted by 340 to 11 to accept the offer.

Accountants' clean bill for Lomho

The finance director and joint auditors of London's pan-African trading group, have been cleared of any evidence of professional propriety after a chartered accountants' study of a critical report by the Department of Trade. The study also found no evidence of lack of effectiveness over the question of expenses claim.

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'More advantages' in large schools

Small schools are likely to suffer from more disadvantages than large ones, the Schools Inspectorate says. It points to more effective teaching, a wider subject range and better staff-form provision in larger schools. They are also considered to be more able to cater for minorities.

Page 3

Back from exile

Mr George Nyandoro, external affairs secretary of the Rhodesian United African National Council, has returned to Rhodesia from exile to take part in the present talks aimed at achieving an internal settlement. He had been living in Zambia since 1964.

Page 4

Help for dollar likely

Western central bankers meeting in Basel today are expected to have high on their agenda the dollar's sharp decline and the effect this is having on the world's economy. Sources suggest the bankers will seek policies to stabilize the American currency.

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Space shot: Lieutenant-Colonel Yuri Romanenko, left, and Mr Georgy Grechko on board the Soviet space station Soyuz 6. The cosmonauts were launched on Saturday in Soyuz 26, which docked with the space station yesterday.

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Attack on Front

In a campaign to expose the racist activities of the National Front, the Labour Party and the TUC are arranging for the distribution of a four-page leaflet portraying the Front as a neo-Nazi organization.

Page 2

Argentina 'war on terrorists'

President Videla of Argentina told British journalists that the country's "war" against terrorists was nearing its end as the terrorists' strength had been reduced to 15 per cent of their previous numbers.

Page 4

Chequers summit

Mr Callaghan and President Giscard d'Estaing are expected to find themselves in agreement on most issues, confirming the growing cordiality of Anglo-French relations, in their summit meeting at Chequers.

Page 4

Chess: Korchinoy wins another game to take a 5-2 lead in his world championship semi-final match against Spassky.

Page 5

Alcoholism: The Christian churches' new temperance leader aims to tell the public that alcoholism is the primary social disease of the age.

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Leader page 15
Letters: On Labour and the National Front from Mr Tim Miller and Professor J. A. Rex; on the police and pornography from Mr John Trevelyan.
Leading articles: Mr Fraser vindicated; The Polish ships order.
Features, pages 14 and 16 Lord Chalfont on the importance of the Lords debate on defence; Eric Heffer on unemployment; Charles Hargrove talks to Mr Jacques Chirac.
Page 4

Jeffery Daniels on eight remarkable paintings by Magasco and Fetti; Stanley Reynolds on *The Men Who Made the Movies* (BBC); Joe Jock's review of Oliver Cromwell, by Roger Howell.
Obituaries, page 17
Mr David Holden, 53, died of a heart attack on Saturday; Professor J. N. Mills, 78, died on Saturday.
Sport, pages 16-18
Tennis: Rex Bellamy sees Billie Jean King trounce Virginia Wade in Brenmar Cup final; Golf: Dudley Dougst on Ireland's end; from Manila; Racing: Business News, pages 18-20.
Financial Editor: Gills: looking beyond the short-term; US bids: The momentum builds up.
Business feature: Roger Vialvoys on next week's meeting of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries.
Hugh Stephenson: A solution to the local authority borrowing problem.
Business management: Banks' adjustment to the needs of multinational companies.
Business Diary in Europe: British initiative behind a new European consumer lawyers' group.

The world's first bottled scotch.

An early Dewar Whisky flagon.

For those with a taste for the original.

HOME NEWS

London firemen reject peace package but Leicestershire vote in favour brings ministers first comfort in pay dispute

By Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

The first crack in the united front of the striking firemen came in Leicestershire yesterday, but the Home Secretary's new peace formula seems destined for overwhelming rejection.

Leaders of the Fire Brigades Union (FBU) are meeting in London on Wednesday to plan their next move in the official strike, which moves into its fifth week today, against a background of generally hardening attitudes on the picket lines.

Mr Rees, Home Secretary, said yesterday: "Firemen must realize that the Government cannot and will not budge on the 10 per cent pay guidelines. Firemen must see that their attempt to break the pay policy is against their own interests as well as that of everybody else."

The Leicestershire men brought the first comfort to Ministers when they voted by 340 to 11 to accept the offer of a suspended pay improvement next winter. It was, however, a decision taken with "severe reservations". But in areas like London the package has been rejected.

Mr Martin Porter, Leicestershire area secretary of the FBU, also pledged that the men would not go back until instructed to do so by a full delegates conference of the union. There is no present prospect of a recalled meeting.

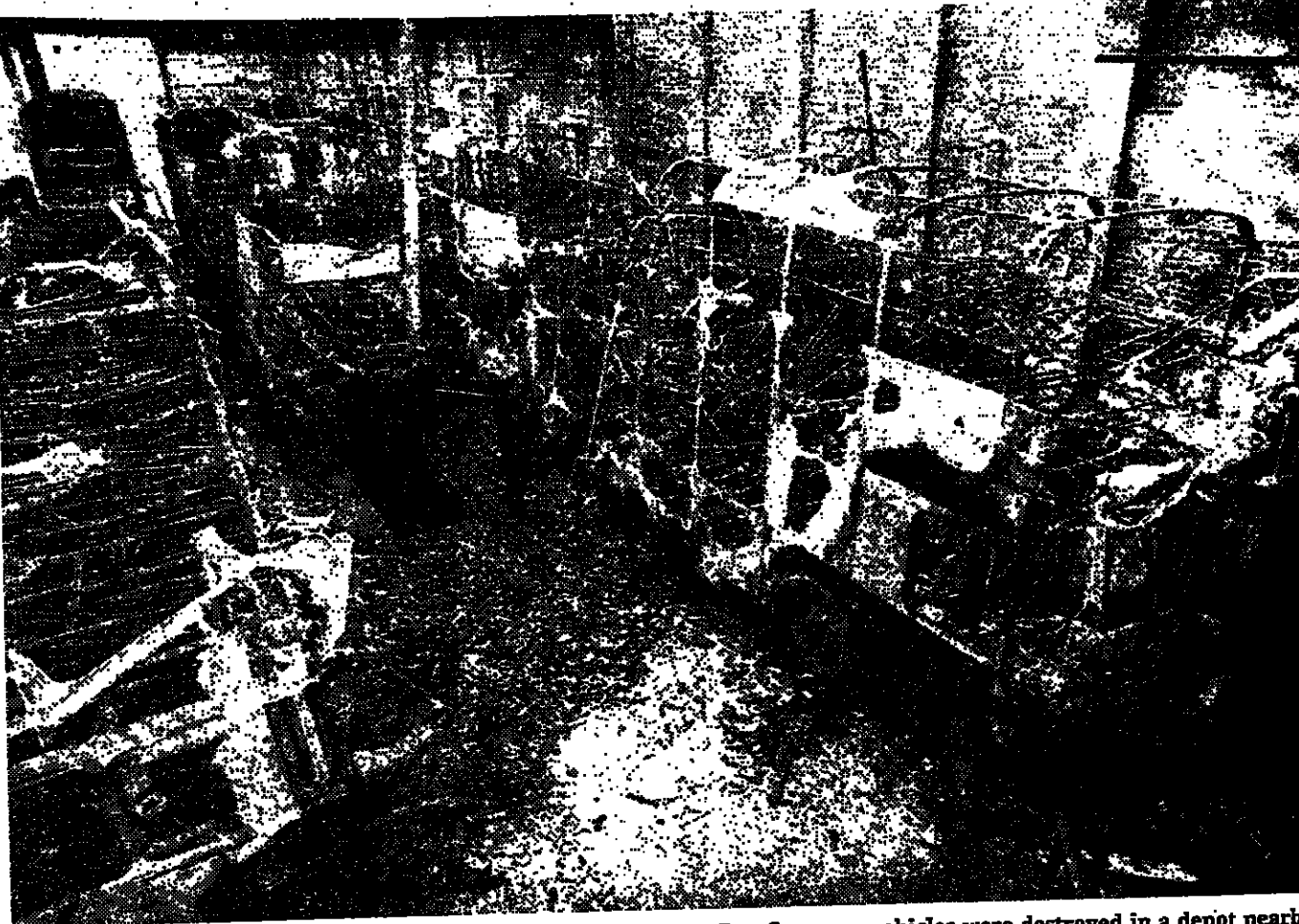
Mr Porter added: "There is too much in the document which is written in lawyers' language. We want to see in firemen's terms so that ordinary firemen can read it and understand it."

"A lot of the lads feel there is some good in this document, but we want to be sure about it. Hopefully, the executive can put it on the next few days and really get it sorted out."

Mr John Lewis, London area executive member of the FBU, said last night that only one man had favoured the proposals during a weekend of mass meetings in the capital. "We are getting an overwhelming rejection of the package, and I repeated throughout Britain."

The Home Secretary in his latest appeal for a return to work said in Leeds: "This is a crucial week for the fire service. An offer has been made to firemen which gives them what they have long talked of, a place at the top of the wages league."

The three-stage offer made to the men, giving them £100 a week by November 1979, was



Burnt-out buses at Nottingham Corporation's depot. Two Trent Bus Company vehicles were destroyed in a depot nearby.

guaranteed and underwritten by the Government in a way that was unique to the firemen. A 42-hour week to operate from next November had been agreed in principle.

"A victory in the fight against inflation means that the pay increases of next year really will be meaningful. Firemen, by the latest guaranteed offer, will have everything to gain," Mr Rees said.

Further regional meetings of the FBU will take place before the union's national executive reconvenes on Wednesday. Meanwhile, support is being canvassed from other unions and leading members of the TUC General Council at the meeting on December 21 to overturn the "inner cabinet's" refusal to mount a general offensive against the firemen's pay demands.

The police in Nottingham were seeking two men who were seen running from the scene of fires at two neighboring bus depots on Saturday. Three busmen were slightly injured in the fires, which destroyed

16 buses. The damage was estimated at £1m. One theory was that the culprits may have been a group of young men, some of whom were seen in the depot near by, broke out within minutes of each other. As troops and two full-time firecrews from West

Bridgeford who have refused to join the strike fought the fires, buses, some still alight, were driven from the depots. Some buses could not be moved because cables from the batteries to the starters had been cut.

Mr John Lowrie, the corporation's chief transport engineer, said: "Tyres and diesel tanks were exploding and finally some buses had to be abandoned in order not to risk people's lives any further."

Chief Superintendent Peter Smith, who is leading the police investigation, said that the two men, both roughly

aged 25, were in their early twenties. Mrs Edith Moffat, a widow, aged 75, died yesterday after being rescued from a fire in her home at Queensberry, Clwyd. An electric blanket is thought to have caused the fire.

A bedridden man, aged 92, died in an upstairs room during a fire at a house at The Grove, Coulsdon, Surrey, last night.

The police were yesterday investigating the cause of a fire that led to the evacuation of 50 elderly patients from a three-storey geriatric block at Tameside General Hospital, Ashton-under-Lyne, Greater Manchester.

A senior fire officer said: "There is reason to think that the fire was not an accident. It is a patient may not be the right word to use, because some of these old people are very confused."

Three fire-fighting soldiers were saved from injury by an Army bomb disposal expert in Belfast on Saturday night

when he warned them not to lift a munition cover over a hydrant.

The incident took place at Cromwell Road, near Queens University after a bomb exploded outside the offices of a building contractor.

The soldiers were about to lift the munition cover when the bomb disposal officer shouted to them to stand clear. A robot bomb defuser which was used to raise the cover triggered a bomb underneath.

Pay dilemma for freight corporation chairman

By Michael Bailey
Transport Correspondent

Mr Rodgers, Secretary of State for Transport, denied yesterday that he had threatened to dismiss Sir Daniel Pettit, chairman of the state-owned National Freight Corporation, if he breaches the phase three guidelines.

But he made it clear that he would take a serious view of Sir Daniel's decision to give the corporation's drivers the 15 per cent pay rise by private sector drivers in the Midlands last month.

Mr Rodgers and other members of the Cabinet clearly fear that if that happened the Government's income policy could suffer a double blow. Not only would a public sector organization be seen to be openly breaching phase three for the first time, but there would also be a danger of encouraging a similar deal in the British Rail settlement next spring. Many of the corporation's workers are members of the National Union of Railmen.

The issue is a difficult one, however, because it raises questions over the independence of public sector chairmen in a mixed economy and how tough the Government can get over an incomes policy that has no statutory force.

Mr Rodgers denied a report in *The Observer* yesterday that he had "reminded Sir Daniel of his statutory obligations" because he had admitted there is no statutory incomes policy. "I have issued no threat of any kind whatsoever," he said.

"However, I have made it quite plain to Sir Daniel that he and his board have an obligation to ensure that the corporation's pay policy is within the guidelines, and that I would take a very serious view of any breach. Beyond that I cannot say."

The attack was one of several over the weekend that destroyed the workshops of the Ford Motor Company in the city, and a confectioners' shop, and damaged the Belfast Cooperative Society's new store in York Street, where seven people were injured when a small bomb was thrown over a wall at the rear of Springfield Road police station, Belfast. One man received a snuffbox wound to the leg.

Four soldiers were slightly injured when a small bomb was thrown over a wall at the rear of Springfield Road police station, Belfast. One man received a snuffbox wound to the leg.

Sir Harold's BBC denial is withdrawn

Sir Harold Wilson has withdrawn a statement he made last week denying that when he was Prime Minister he put pressure on the BBC to cancel a programme about the IRA.

Sir Harold's denial was issued after a BBC executive said he had intervened to prevent the broadcasting of a programme about the IRA.

Sir Harold said on Saturday: "I fully accept the memory of the incident. Accordingly, I withdraw the statement I made."

Freighter refloated

The Greek freighter *Elmela*, 4,750 tons, which ran aground on the Goodwin Sands on Saturday night, was refloated shortly before high tide yesterday morning.

Principal's death

Professor Sir Hugh Robson, principal and vice-chancellor of Edinburgh University, died in the Northern General Hospital, Edinburgh, yesterday, aged 60.

Labour-TUC attack on National Front

By George Clark
Political Correspondent

As part of a sustained campaign to expose the National Front's racist activities, the Labour Party and the TUC are arranging the mass distribution of a four-page leaflet portraying the Front as a neo-Nazi organization.

For distribution in shops, offices and factories in the new year, the leaflet comes after the Labour Party's controversial party political television broadcast last week.

Mr Joseph Ashton, Labour MP for Bassetlaw, who narrated the political broadcast, yesterday welcomed the publicity which the *News of the World* had given to the backgrounds of the Front leaders.

Certain references that had been struck out of the broadcast for legal reasons, Mr Ashton said, were minimal. "We got our message across."

Last Wednesday's broadcast was initiated by the party's press and publicity committee and the campaign committee of which Mr Ashton is a member. The new leaflet has been approved by the campaign committee and is being printed.

It will present facts about the murders of millions of people by the Nazis during the war and urge people in Britain to unite against the new forces of racism now emerging. It brands the National Front as "a means of hate."

Quoting from the declarations of Front leaders, the leaflet attempts to show the similarity between the rise of the German Nazi Party and the recent advance of the National Front in Britain. It asserts: "Yesterday the Jews; today—the coloured people; tomorrow—trade unionists."

A photograph of a Front leader whose appearance is thought to resemble Hitler is shown in colour, a Union Jack is shown disintegrating into a swastika; in the centre pages there is a picture of National Front marchers with a call to party and union members to fight the influence of the "neo-Nazis."

Mr Leo Abse, Labour MP for Pontypool, said yesterday that he will press in the Commons this week for an amendment to the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act, which prohibits the disclosure of certain criminal records, because he says that it was not intended to provide a "whitewash" for people seeking public office.

Chief constable defends talk by Front man

From Our Correspondent Durham

The chief constable of Durham, Mr Puckering, said yesterday that Mr Martin Webster, deputy chairman of the National Front, had been invited to lecture at a recent conference on public order because of those present wanted to hear from people representing all aspects of the subject.

Earlier Mr Gordon Bagier, Labour MP for Sunderland, South, had criticised the invitation as "shocking" on the grounds that Mr Webster's involvement in demonstrations had led to violence.

Mr Puckering said that the conference, some weeks ago, was held at the instigation of the public order committee of the police point of view. Politics did not come into it. The opposite political side to Mr Webster's was represented so that all viewpoints were expressed.

He said the pressure for an amendment had grown since a passage in the broadcast last week was cut by BBC and IBA lawyers for reasons that were "purely legal."

Mr Abse said: "The Act must be changed. It was intended to give people a second chance, not to whitewash people seeking political power."

Mr Frank Allam, vice-chairman of the Labour Party and MP for Salford, East, said that certain workers, such as nurses, lawyers, policemen, prison officers and social workers, were denied the protection of the Act, and there was an even stronger argument for people leading political parties or seeking political power by standing for Parliament and local authorities being equally denied its protection.

Mr Brian Clough and Mr Jack Charlton, who are candidates for the management of the England football team, have joined the Anti-Nazi League, which is campaigning against the National Front. It was announced yesterday by Mr Peter Hain.

Mr Ashton said he had asked Mr Clough and Mr Charlton for support because it was obvious that the Front had been recruiting football supporters at matches. "We wanted to find some method of countering this," he said.

Mr Hain said that it was intended to form a group called "Footballers against the Nazis" and to persuade footballers outside football grounds. He added that the league would hold a rally in January and would distribute thousands of leaflets during the 1980, North, by-election in which the National Front is a candidate.

Mr Peter Walker, Conservative MP for Worcester, said on Saturday that he was not enough to condemn the National Front for its appalling views and to do nothing about the conditions in which it was able to recruit members. "We are creating what will be a lost generation of under-privileged, semiliterate and unemployed black youngsters," he said.

Council withdraws papers: The London borough of Haringey has withdrawn the Christmas issue of its free newsletter to residents, the *Haringey Star*, because it contains an allegedly racist letter.

Mr Colin Ware, leader of the council, said the council would ensure that the paper's content would be under "member control" in future.

Letters, page 15

Anti-apartheid protest over schools match

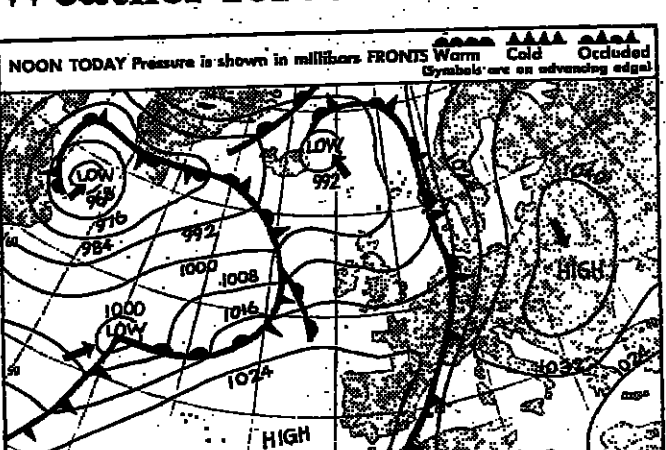
By A Staff Reporter

Supporters of the Anti-Apartheid Movement are threatening to picket a school rugby match on Saturday between Dulwich College, in south London, and a South African touring team from the all-white Diocesan College, Cape Town.

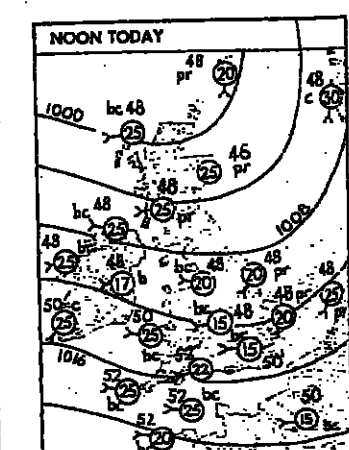
An officer of the movement said yesterday that Mr David Emms, master of Dulwich College, has been asked to cancel the match.

He added: "Coming at a time when the news is full of the repeated murder of Steve Biko, murder and when the schoolchildren of Soweto are still fighting for a decent education system, to play host to a privileged, all-white South African school boy gives moral sustenance to the apartheid regime and is a provocation to the multiracial community in south London."

Weather forecast and recordings



NOON TODAY	Pressure is shown in millibars	FRONTS	WIND	TEMP	RAIN
London	1000	Low	W	11°C	0.2
Edinburgh	1000	Low	W	11°C	0.2
Belfast	1000	Low	W	11°C	0.2
Cardiff	1000	Low	W	11°C	0.2
Birmingham	1000	Low	W	11°C	0.2
Manchester	1000	Low	W	11°C	0.2
Sheffield	1000	Low	W	11°C	0.2
Leeds	1000	Low	W	11°C	0.2
Nottingham	1000	Low	W	11°C	0.2
London	1000	Low	W	11°C	0.2
Edinburgh	1000	Low	W	11°C	0.2
Belfast	1000	Low	W	11°C	0.2
Cardiff	1000	Low	W	11°C	0.2
Birmingham	1000	Low	W	11°C	0.2
Manchester	1000	Low	W	11°C	0.2
Sheffield	1000	Low	W	11°C	0.2
Leeds	1000	Low	W	11°C	0.2
Nottingham	1000	Low	W	11°C	0.2



NOON TODAY	Pressure is shown in millibars	FRONTS	WIND	TEMP	RAIN
London	1000	Low	W	11°C	0.2
Edinburgh	1000	Low	W	11°C	0.2
Belfast	1000	Low	W	11°C	0.2
Cardiff	1000	Low	W	11°C	0.2
Birmingham	1000	Low	W	11°C	0.2
Manchester	1000	Low	W	11°C	0.2
Sheffield	1000	Low	W	11°C	0.2
Leeds	1000	Low	W	11°C	0.2
Nottingham	1000	Low	W	11°C	0.2
London	1000	Low	W	11°C	0.2
Edinburgh	1000	Low	W	11°C	0.2
Belfast	1000	Low	W	11°C	0.2
Cardiff	1000	Low	W	11°C	0.2
Birmingham	1000	Low	W	11°C	0.2
Manchester	1000	Low	W	11°C	0.2
Sheffield	1000	Low	W	11°C	0.2
Leeds	1000	Low	W	11°C	0.2
Nottingham	1000	Low	W	11°C	0.2

'PR' would mean coalition governments at Westminster

Continued from page 1

the wedge, and it would be difficult then to resist pressure for the same method to be adopted for Westminster elections.

"Proportional representation means coalition governments at Westminster on the lines of our European partners, and it would be goodbye to any dreams of a socialist Britain," Mr Hayward declared.

The national executive of the Labour Party meets on Wednesday to decide whether the party shall fight the European elections by the votes of Conservatives, Liberals, other parties and a minority of Labour MPs, becomes law.

It seems likely that the decision will be deferred until further progress has been made with the Bill. In the party at large, as annual conference decisions have shown, there is a majority opposed to direct elections.

Anti-EEC Labour MPs maintain that if the party does get committed to fighting the European elections, candidates must include a fair proportion of anti-marketisers, who would

have the backing of party funds just like the pro-Europeans. In that context the decision of the Danish Social Democrats has special interest; those members of the party who wish to stand as anti-marketisers will have to leave the party and join a mass anti-market organisation that has been set up to contest the elections.

Taking an optimistic view, Mr Steel seemed yesterday to be putting his faith in Mr Callaghan's ability to persuade a majority of Labour MPs to vote for PR, and even if the Prime Minister failed, the Liberal leader did not expect a special conference to call for an end to the pact.

If it did, however, he would be in an "impossible position". He was pressed by Mr Brian Walden, former Labour MP and presenter of the programme, to say whether he would resign if the party went against him.

"A lot would depend on what the parliamentary colleagues felt, but that could not be ruled out," Mr Steel said. "If the party rejected the strategy on which I based my appeal during the leadership elections, and since that would clearly be a vote against the leadership."

Mr Steel emphasized that although there were varying views among Liberal MPs about the pact, "we all agree that this is not the issue on which to break off the pact. It would be madness to go to the country on the 'great issue' of proportional representation for European elections."

If the party did that, it would be adopting a policy they had criticized in other parties, putting something strongly above other issues which were of greater concern to the mass of the people.

Scorning the suggestion that he had been boxed out and manoeuvred by Mr Callaghan, Mr Steel said he had very little out of the pact. Mr Steel argued that by saving the Government in March and supporting it since then, the Liberals have provided conditions of stability in which economic recovery could take place.

People would come to see that the Labour Government mark II had followed very closely the policy of mark I, before the pact existed. As the next general election he thought his party would gain even more seats as the result of "tactical voting."

When he was asked whether, if the Conservatives won the next election but had a minority in the Commons, the Liberals would consider a pact with them, Mr Steel replied: "It is increasingly difficult to see how it is going to be possible to cooperate with a Thatcher government when they have this almost pathological blind spot about electoral reform."

"If we campaign at the next election for the balance of power and we get it, we shall be in a stronger position to demand, after three general elections, a change in the method of election."

"At present the Tory leadership seems to be very strongly against it... but I think there is going to be a change of opinion on the Conservatives' part."

Conservative MPs have received a three-line whip asking them to attend the House when the vote is taken on the pact, but there is a free vote. That is being taken by some Conservatives as implying that they should turn up to vote with Mrs Thatcher and the majority of the shadow Cabinet against PR.

The opposition whips, who are in close contact with the Conservative whip, will divide two to one against the PR method. The Conservative supporters of PR estimate that more than 70 will vote for that system.

Mr Francis Pym, former chief whip and now shadow Leader of the Commons, denied that the whip should be seen in this light. "I do not see anything wrong with it," he said. "No pressure is being brought on anyone to vote one way or the other. Tory MPs would make up their own minds and it would be a genuine free vote."

Mr Edward Heath, the former party leader, and Mr James Prior, the shadow Secretary of State for Employment, are among the Conservative leaders who will vote for PR.

But Mr Pym insisted yesterday that there was no personal clash.

"As I have pointed out in relation to the Scotland Bill, there seems to be some merit in electing other assemblies on a different system," he said. But he felt the regional list system had profound weaknesses.

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Christmas was cheaper under the Tories

By Robin Young
Consumer Affairs Correspondent

Christmas comes but once a year, and each time it gets more expensive, according to Mrs Sally Oppenheim, the Conservative spokeswoman on prices and consumer affairs.

Speaking yesterday at a briefing conference of her constituency association in Gloucester, Mrs Oppenheim claimed that this year it would cost the average family with two children £60.60 to celebrate Christmas.

The comparable cost in 1973, the last Christmas presided over by a Conservative government, she said, was only £34.89. She produced a Christmas shopping list of price comparisons to prove the point.

The list included all the traditional Christmas items, such as a 14-lb turkey, up from £7 to £10.50, a tree, up from £6 to £17.50, and tinsel, up from 60p to £1.08.

Mrs Oppenheim allowed three bottles of spirits, all sharply up, but only one pint of beer, up 11p to 30p. Her model family were going to send four Christmas parcels, at one of the steepest increases in cost, up from £1.08 to £3.44. But they did not apparently buy presents

for anyone except the children, whose "toys and games" were reckoned to be up from £10.95 to £18.09.

Under the assumption that they would still be able, or want, to send their 24 Christmas cards by first-class mail might appear optimistic, with the cost increased from 84p to £2.16.

The only thing on Mrs Oppenheim's family Christmas shopping list that had not shot up in price was 13lb of brussel sprouts, still 12p as in 1973. Mrs Oppenheim evidently took little cheer in the prospect of the spirit of Christmas past being personified by a bag of brussel sprouts.

Giving her constituents her best wishes for such a miserable Christmas, Mrs Oppenheim reminded them that things could be worse. They could be out of work, in which case this would be "one of the grimmest Christmases they had known."

She poured icy water on the suggestion made last week by Mr Fraser, Minister of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, that everyone could get a Christmas bonus. "There can have been few more transparently false statements than this euphoric promise," she said. "1977 will be the most expensive Christmas that people can remember."

Brothers die in crash

Mr John Flaherty, of Great Sankey, Cheshire, and his brother, Mr Christopher Flaherty, of Southend, Kirby, Liverpool, died yesterday when their car was in collision with another car in Warrington.

MP out of danger

Mr Austin Mitchell, Labour MP for Grimsby, is out of danger after being seriously injured in a car crash on Friday, Bedford General Hospital said yesterday.

Big search for boy with hole in heart

A search was continuing last night for a boy, aged four, with a hole in his heart, who left his home at Trebafren, Newtown, Powys, on Saturday morning.

Police officers aided by volunteers combed empty properties, alleys, and waste ground in the area yesterday for Mark Williams. A civilian diver also searched the Severn, that runs near his home.

Mark's father, Mr Edward Williams, aged 34, said: "He is very susceptible to colds and goes quickly. He has to have penicillin as soon as possible when he becomes ill."

26 fined over 'hares meet'

Twenty-five adults were fined £25 each, and a youth was fined £5, at a specially convened court at Stevenage, Herts, yesterday in pursuit of charges of trespassing on a chess during the day under the Game Act, 1831.

They were arrested after police had been informed that a hare-coursing meet was about to begin.

Mr John G. Silk

Mr Taverne not to contest Lincoln again

Mr Dick Taverne, QC, former MP for Lincoln, will not contest the constituency at the general election. He held the seat for Labour from 1962 to 1972, when he resigned, and for the Democratic Labour Party from 1973 to 1974.

He was beaten by Miss Margaret Jackson, the present Labour MP, in October, 1974. The Democratic Labour Party still controls Lincoln City Council.

Mr Taverne said: "It has become increasingly obvious that the idea of nursing a constituency and my present work cannot be combined, as I am often abroad."

'Sunday Times' loses copies in internal dispute

Copies of *The Sunday Times* were scarce yesterday because of a refusal by machine managers, who are members of the National Graphical Association, to work the customary overtime.

A statement by the newspaper said that it had been particularly anxious to complete production because of the news, which came in late, of the death of Mr David Holden, "one of its most distinguished correspondents."

HOME NEWS



Mr Dennis Orme, leader of the Unification Church in Britain, with his wife.

Squire gave 600-acre estate to Moon cult

Continued from page 1

was almost 19, says: "He is a police officer. I can no longer recognize him. Tony met the Moonies in Plymouth. After a while, the very next day he joined the UC. He did not even wait to find out the results of his exams."

Mr and Mrs Norman Boreford, of Nether Wallop, Hampshire, do not know where their son, Marcus, aged 21, is except that he is "somewhere in America" and working for the Moon organization. Mrs Boreford says: "Marcus was on holiday in America and without a work permit. He was without money at the time he met with the Moonies on the California beaches."

"The letters he wrote us show he was low down morally and physically. He wrote long screeds of letters all about Buddhist temples. He had not bothered to sign his name to some of them. They teach that a man should give up his family and follow the Messiah."

"We believe it is constant reiteration coupled with poor food and constant companionship that brings about the transformation in these young people. This is what has happened to our son."

In the sect's 40 centres in Britain, many are large houses with surrounding land where the members and their converts live. They are called family centres and are hierarchical in their structure, each having group leaders responsible for fund-raising and gaining new recruits.

Wiltshire is a county under siege by the Moon cult at present and a call for a Home Office public inquiry into the sect's activities has come from Mr Victor Finlayson, prospective Labour candidate for Devizes.

The cult has two bases in Wiltshire. One is a 600-acre estate at Stanton Fitzwarren, valued at £300,000, which was given by the squire of the village, Mr Henry Masters, and his wife, Avril, both of whom are converts to the Unification Church. The other is a manor house at Seend, near Trowbridge.

In a letter to Mr Rees, the Home Secretary, Mr Finlayson alleges that the cult has gained large areas of land, evicted a person who would not give up his Christian principles (Mr Desmond Jeeves, the manager of one of the farms at Stanton Fitzwarren was evicted from his family home) and has drawn children away from their parents.

He says: "I would draw your attention to the two groups of people I have encountered in the organization. One group is that of simple young people with difficulty adjusting to modern life, who retreat in the face of a challenge rather than meeting it head on."

"The second group is very sophisticated. Their smooth appearance is accompanied by an attitude that worries many ordinary people. They are more like marketing men than the 'elect' of a new religion. All of us would be failing in our duty if we did not investigate what is happening to the first group. Their hope of a safe retreat turns into a nightmare for their parents."

As well as their stronghold in Wiltshire, the cult also has an elaborate headquarters at 42, 43 and 44 Lancaster Gate, London. The large period properties, always with a Moorgate number on the door, overlook what was once one of the best known and best attended Anglican churches in London, Christ Church.

Now the roof is missing and the church is in ruins. Mr Jan Parker, a Moon member, commented: "They opposed us and took what has happened to them."

From the London headquarters the M4 motorway is the cult's bible belt. The Unification Church owns, or rents, properties on either side of the M4 from Rowland Farmhouse at Dunsden, near Reading, which also houses a printing works, to Stanton Fitzwarren at Seend, near Trowbridge, to Bristol and on to Newport and Cardiff. There are reports that the Moon

sect is active in Bath but has so far failed to buy a residential property there. The Unification Church, which first came to Britain in 1968, beginning modestly from a flat in Earl's Court, London, now has centres or offices in Birmingham, Hull, Liverpool, Manchester, Plymouth, Edinburgh, Dundee, Glasgow and Newcastle upon Tyne.

Until Mr Finlayson's intervention the parents' only ally has been Mr Paul Rose, Labour MP for Manchester, Blackley, with the help of the organization of which he is chairman, FAIR (Family Action, Information and Rescue).

The association was formed in response to the difficulties of parents and relatives of young people who had fallen under the influence of religious cults. It advises on how to counter indoctrination, but "strongly opposes physical coercion or 'deprogramming'". It helps with the consent of the person involved, using reasoned argument and proof fact.

In the House of Commons in October 1975, Mr Rose raised the question of "a number of bogus and bizarre bodies which purport to be religious cults". He said: "They benefit from the laxity of the law relating to charities. Among them, and perhaps the most pernicious, is a body commonly known as the Unification Church, with its fraudulent fund-raising, its dubious medical and psychological claims, its rather sinister political connexions and the dangers which it holds in relation to the health of potential or actual recruits."

His sophisticated brain-washing techniques, its efforts to split youngsters from their families and encourage them to give up worldly goods are equally a danger to health and a matter of concern. The whole set-up constitutes a criminal conspiracy, only the fringes of which have been dealt with by convictions in court. (Those court convictions relate to street selling offences).

He went on to quote Mr Dennis Orme, leader of the Unification Church in Britain and a trustee of the Sun Myung Moon Foundation, which is a registered charity, as writing in the church's newspaper, *Right to Life*: "Jesus taught that we should love our father and mother and family and love him first."

Mr Rose told the House of Commons: "It is this doctrine that has brought myriads of letters pouring in to me." He went on to read a letter from a British parent whose son had been "witnessing" and street selling for the cult in Japan.

"... I had a phone call to say Tony was on his way home. We were waiting for him. He didn't recognize anybody, didn't speak, just a vacant expression on his face. The two ladies made a quick exit, saying they had a train to catch back to London. I was not until they had gone that I realized what Tony was really like. He could not eat or drink, so we got him straight to bed. We even had to undress him and put him to bed. He was also incontinent."

In a reply to Mr Rose, Dr Summerskill, Under-Secretary of State at the Home Office, said the Home Office needed to know whether the activities of the Unification Church and its bodies were within the law. Anyone who had evidence that might suggest a criminal offence had been committed should make it known to the police.

She said: "The information that has been provided so far has not, in the judgment of the Home Office, warranted prosecution for any major criminal offence. But there have been a few prosecutions on minor charges connected with street collection."

"We may as individuals take the view that the doctrines advanced by Mr Moon are lunatic. We may be particularly suspicious of the motives of people who, while claiming to benefit humanity, have substantially enriched themselves. But these are matters of opinion and surely it is one of the principles of a free society that people may propagate ideas which the majority of us do not share and do not believe."

Some criminals should be given shorter jail sentences to ease the strain on overcrowded prisons, the Lord Chancellor said on Saturday.

Lord Elwyn-Jones told the West Yorkshire branch of the Magistrates' Association that prisons had become grossly overcrowded. Magistrates in particular could ease the strain by shorter sentences, he said.

Many people felt that the worst part of a prison sentence was the first few days, and that was a deterrent, except in the case of repeated sentences. Benchers, he said, might well be advised to consider one month instead of four or six-month sentences.

He added that there was concern at the number of people kept in custody between conviction and sentence while reports were prepared. Two years ago that figure reached 25,000 but only half of those received custodial sentences.

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WEST EUROPE

Britain and France see eye to eye

From Our Own Correspondent Paris, Dec 11

The best proof that Anglo-French relations have been set on a new course since President Giscard d'Estaing's state visit to Britain 18 months ago is the fact that the summit talks between Mr Callaghan and the President starting at Chequers tomorrow are not expected to produce any sharp confrontation or spectacular decisions.

It will be the second of such meetings, and their main purpose is to enable the President and the Prime Minister to discuss and tackle problems arising between their countries without bureaucratic strings. This has been the case with the similar twice-yearly Franco-German summits, which have been taking place for nearly 15 years.

A pattern of regular cross-Channel contacts between ministers and senior officials has developed in the past 18 months. Eight British ministers have visited Paris and seven French ministers have been to London.

Some of the issues which may be discussed at the summit concern fisheries, the common agricultural policy, energy, and regional development. But they are well known and will be settled sooner or later in the same way as the compromise on British distribution to the Community budget was reached at the EEC heads of state meeting in Brussels last week.

The President and the Prime Minister are basically seen as future progress towards European unity. They favour a confederal approach, preserving the autonomy of each member government.

The disagreements provoked in France by Mr Callaghan's letter last October to Mr Ron Hayward, the General Secretary of the Labour Party, and his approval of enlargement of the Community as a means of reducing the dangers of over-centralization and over-harmonization, have largely subsided.

There is a growing conviction on both sides of the Channel that the countries of West Europe cannot hold their own in the industrial field against competition from the United States, Japan and the developing countries if they do not work together. Mr Callaghan may suggest a distribution of projects between the British, French and German aerospace industries.

There is a whole range of possibilities for partnership in the development and production of modern power stations. While Community energy policy is still undecided, Britain, which has excess generating capacity, may be ready to sell electricity to France, which has a shortage.

Feeling better: Mr Callaghan expects to be well enough to receive President Giscard d'Estaing. Whitehall officials indicated. He cancelled two engagements on Saturday because of a heavy cold.

... I had a phone call to say Tony was on his way home. We were waiting for him. He didn't recognize anybody, didn't speak, just a vacant expression on his face. The two ladies made a quick exit, saying they had a train to catch back to London. I was not until they had gone that I realized what Tony was really like. He could not eat or drink, so we got him straight to bed. We even had to undress him and put him to bed. He was also incontinent."

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Professor Rosalyn Yalow, joint winner of the Nobel medicine prize for her work as a radiochemist in New York, dancing with a student in Stockholm on Saturday night.

Fear is cause of war, Nobel meeting told

Oso, Dec 11.—Mrs Betty Williams, the Northern Ireland peace campaigner and Nobel prize-winner, today hailed President Sadat's visit to Israel last month as an important recognition of psychological barriers as the main obstacles to peace in the Middle East.

"President Sadat recognized that the problem was 70 per cent psychological," she said. "The problem was not everywhere it is mainly psychological. It comes from fear, mistrust, suspicion," she said in her Nobel lecture today.

The lecture was delivered in the Oslo University hall where Mrs Williams and Miss Mairead Corrigan belatedly received the 1976 Nobel gold medal and diploma yesterday.

Mrs Williams strongly criticized meaningless violence, and senseless military spending all over the world.

"\$500,000 (£270,000) are spent every minute of every day on war and the preparation for war, while in every one of those minutes human beings... die of neglect," she said.

"What makes these insane priorities the sicker is that this obscene amount of money is spent in the name of defending either freedom or socialism. No doubt the dead and dying are relieved that freedom and socialism are being so efficiently defended," she added.

Mrs Williams acknowledged that the situation could not be changed overnight or without struggle. But she expressed the hope of channelling the Pentagon, the Kremlin and "all the other great centres of militarism" into creative work.

Amnesty International, the London-based human rights organization, was awarded the 1977 Nobel peace prize, presented during the Oslo ceremony by the Norwegian Nobel Committee.

Speaking on behalf of Amnesty, Professor Muntaz Soyay of Turkey said that violations of human rights threatened world peace. He deplored the use of human rights as a weapon in international politics.

To Amnesty's knowledge, he said, human rights were being violated in 117 countries under every social and political system, but this was only the tip of the iceberg. Government-sanctioned torture was still being practised in a horrifying number of states, —Reuters.

Union to the "grievously low cultural and moral level of our present criminal procedure, its subservience to the state and frequently its corruption, dependence on local leadership."

In Sweden, where capital punishment has been abolished, it was found that there was no correlation between the death penalty and crime prevention, said Mr Thorbjörn Fälldin, the Prime Minister.

Senator Hipolito Yrigoyen, of Argentina, who is in exile, said the Buenos Aires regime reintroduced the death penalty in 1976 as legal window dressing for the fact that "thousands of Argentines are executed on the fringes of legislation."

In Chile, about 2,500 persons had disappeared this year, he said, while political murders and disappearances were estimated at 15,000 between 1970 and 1977.

An indictment of Soviet criminal law came in a state-criticising article by Dr Andrei Sakharov, the Soviet Academician and Nobel peace prize winner, who was unable to attend in person. It noted that the death penalty was assigned for crimes which did not involve attempts on human life, such as property offences and private entrepreneurial activity.

Dr Sakharov attributed the fluctuations of the death penalty in the Soviet Union to the "grievously low cultural and moral level of our present criminal procedure, its subservience to the state and frequently its corruption, dependence on local leadership."

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Italian call for coalition including Communists

From Peter Nichols Rome, Dec 11

Signor Bettino Craxi, the Socialist leader, today renewed his demand for a coalition government to include the Communists, saying that the country was "sinking into the quicksands of a political situation full of contradictions."

He was speaking at Piacenza at the end of a weekend which has seen the likelihood of immediate political change recede.

The crisis itself is still apparent enough. Early yesterday a fire believed to have been caused by sabotage seriously damaged a section of the Fiat works at Mirafiori in Turin. The fire, apparently started with phosphorus bombs, is estimated to have cost Fiat 2,000m lire (£1.4m) but work is due to begin tomorrow morning as usual.

This is the eleventh act of sabotage since March, 1976. By coincidence it occurred two days before the eighth anniversary of the bombs in a Milan bank which initiated serious political terrorism in Italy.

Fears of possible consequences of the fall of the government at a moment of serious economic and social difficulty is presumably one of the reasons why talk of a change which dominated the end of last week has subsided at the weekend.

The party leadership of the governing Christian Democratic Party has let it be known that things should be left as they are until the spring. This means that Signor Andreotti would remain Prime Minister for the time being unless events force him out.

Such would be the consequences of a general strike if the unions should carry out their threat of organizing one against the Government's handling of the economy. Their intention should be known by the end of the week.

Signor Andreotti can hardly expect to have an easy time, even within the ranks of his own party. The Communists insist that it change comes they intend being actual members of the next government and not simply outside supporters.

Not to doubt helped to reimpose the Communist's quiet Christian Democracy.

Frau Hess plea to wife of President Carter

Berlin, Dec 11.—Frau Ilse Hess, wife of the former Nazi leader Herr Rudolf Hess, has written to Mrs Rosalynn Carter, wife of President Carter, to seek her aid in obtaining a pardon for her husband, now aged 83, the newspaper *Welt am Sonntag* reported today.

Well known as the State Department had told Frau Hess that her husband's prison conditions were to be relaxed after negotiations between the three Western allies and the Soviet Union. The Russians have always rejected requests for Herr Hess's release. —Agence France-Presse.

12 killed in US plane crash

Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Dec 11.—Twelve people were killed when a United States military aircraft crashed on Hierro, in the Canary Islands south-west of here, the Spanish news agency Cifra reported today.

Cifra said the aircraft crashed into a hillside on the small island and broke up scattering wreckage over a wide area.

In a talk with the correspondents of foreign newspapers and agencies this weekend, Dr Soares explained that his former Government would carry on the administration of state affairs until the President announces that a new Government is formed.

The former Prime Minister said that the fall of his Government was natural in a democratic context, and that it would also be natural for those who overthrew him to try their hand at governing.

It was easier to criticise than to govern, he added. The overthrow of a Government by the Opposition would not have been possible before 1974.

He denied that there was any danger of a military government, saying that the armed forces were now united and responsible under the leadership of General Eanes, who is Chief of Staff of the armed forces.

As President Eanes leaves for a four-day official visit to West Germany tomorrow, it is believed that he will issue a communiqué informing the country of progress so far before departing.

At Calais, the striking seamen had left their ferries blocking berths and two British Rail ferries returned to Dover from Calais with their passengers still on board.

A port spokesman at Dover said passengers must expect diversions and some delays until the strike, which is over a crewing dispute, ends.

OVERSEAS

Argentine leader sees victory near in war against terrorism

From Peter Stafford Buenos Aires, Dec 10

President Videla of Argentina has told a group of visiting British journalists that the campaign against armed terrorist groups in Argentina is nearing its end, and that the terrorists have only about 15 per cent of the strength they once had.

But he could not give any dates for a return to civilian rule, because the armed forces wanted a different type of democracy from any type of aggression, even the most subtle, such as subversive terrorism.

What was needed was a "stable, strong, modern democracy" which would provide protection against "any type of aggression, even the most subtle, such as subversive terrorism."

General Videla was speaking in the Casa Rosada, the seat of the presidency, and showed himself well aware of the bad image that Argentina has abroad because of the nature of the armed forces' campaign against subversion, but he blamed this on misinformation and exaggeration.

Argentina, he said, had suffered aggression from subversive terrorism, which had led to a state of chaos, as well as intimidation, assassinations and kidnappings directed at several different groups.

In response, it had been necessary to defend the human rights of Argentine society, and defeat an attempt to subvert its system of life.

"This is really a war. In a war there are survivors, wounded, dead and, sometimes, people who disappear."

General Videla, a mild-mannered man, is generally regarded as one of the more moderate members of the Argentine military Government. There are grounds for believing that he has tried to modify some of the policies adopted since the armed forces took over last year, but has not had the power to overrule the hard-liners.

Questioned about human rights, he conceded that there might have been some "excesses" but that this was not the rule, and in general Argentine citizens were not the victims of repression. "It is directed against a minority whom we do not consider Argentine."

It was "a serious crime to assault our Western and Christian style of life and to try to change it to something else, not like it. It was not just people belonging to the church, but men in plain clothes who were regarded as aggressors, but also those who were 'active in

the ideological field" and tried to impose different ideas.

This appears to confirm the accusations of such groups as the Permanent Assembly for Human Rights, based in Buenos Aires, which maintain that the armed forces have not just been rounding up real or suspected terrorists, but have detained many people simply for views which could be seen as leftist.

Over the past 18 months or so, thousands of people have been taken for questioning, and many are said to have been tortured and killed. Many others have disappeared, without their families receiving a word about their fate.

When asked about this, General Videla said that there were no political prisoners in Argentina. Just "criminals". He estimated that there were no more than 4,000 of them, and planned to publish a list soon.

This figure is lower than the one put forward by the Permanent Assembly for Human Rights, which believes that about 6,000 people are being held. It also takes no account of those who have simply disappeared, their arrest never acknowledged by the authorities. These are thought to number perhaps another 6,000.

General Videla denied that there were any concentration camps in which such people were being held for long periods in military establishments. He conceded that some people might in fact have disappeared as a result of the policy of repression—a consequence of the internal war—but said that there were other reasons for most of the disappearances.

There were those who had given up terrorism and did not want to be known, those who had gone underground, or had left the country, or been killed by the terrorists because they were considered traitors, and those who had died in explosions and fires and had not been identified.

Buenos Aires, Dec 11.—Eight hundred people have called on the Argentine Government to provide information on the whereabouts of relatives who had disappeared.

The appeal came in a petition published as an advertisement in the newspaper *La Nación*. The missing include a group of between 15 and 25, mostly women, believed to have been involved in preparation of the petition.

Witnesses said that they had been picked up on Thursday night, after a meeting at which they had been asked to join the church, by men in plain clothes who said that they were police.

Now, however, he is seen as the man who could take over the leadership of the UANC eventually. He has already been credited with giving new drive and a sense of direction to the UANC.

Two less well known but nevertheless significant political figures to return have been Professor Stanlake Samkange and Mr Lawrence Vambe. Professor Samkange, one of the older generation of nationalists, was secretary-general of the old Rhodesian African National Congress in 1951.

In the 1960s he became disillusioned with the nationalist movement, however, and moved to the United States.

Mr Vambe was assistant information officer in London for the Central African Federation between 1959 and 1962 and spent the past 13 years abroad. He is to become Bishop Muzorewa's public relations officer.

Salisbury, Dec 11.—Bishop Muzorewa today gave warning of calling a general strike "to bring the whites down within two weeks" if the present talks failed to produce a settlement. —UPI.

Salisbury, Dec 11.—The West Berlin police today said that in the past few days they had arrested 99 Pakistanis who entered West Berlin illegally. Unless they could justify requests for political asylum, they would be sent back to Pakistan, like those flown to Karachi last week. —Agence France-Presse.

the ideological field" and

OVERSEAS

Mr Whitlam bows out after Fraser win in Australian election

From Douglas Aiton, Melbourne, Dec 11

The Fraser Government was returned to office in yesterday's Australian election with its huge majority in the House of Representatives barely touched.

Mr. Gough Whitlam, the Opposition leader who was Prime Minister from 1972 to 1975, immediately announced that he would relinquish the Labour leadership.

Although by the end of the campaign a Fraser victory seemed certain, few expected such a resounding triumph.

With five seats still to come, the Liberals have 66 seats, the Coalition partner, the National Country Party, has 16 seats, and the Labour Party 35 in the House of Representatives, which now has 124 seats.

In the old House, which had 127 seats, the Government had 89 members and the Opposition 38, with three Liberal Democrats sitting as independents.

The Government's overwhelming win is probably an even more devastating blow to the Labour Party than its record victory two years ago. Both the coalition and the Labour Party lost votes to the new centre party, the Australian Democrats, who attracted 9.3 per cent of the vote.

The Democrats' leader, Mr. Don Chipp, a former Liberal, was elected to the Senate and another Senator, Mr. John Gorton, also went to his party. The Democrats will not, however, hold the balance of power in the Senate as was thought possible.

The Government has retained its majority in both Houses.

The Labour Party polled 40 per cent of the vote, against 47.8 per cent in 1975. The Liberals had 38.3 per cent (41.8) and the National Country Party 1.7 per cent (1.3).

The Australian Democrats with their share of the vote proved their claim to be a new force in politics.

Mr. Whitlam announced his intention to stand down when it became clear that his party had been soundly defeated.

Mr. William Hayden, Labour's economic spokesman whom Mr. Whitlam recently named as his successor, announced last night

that he would stand for the party leadership.

He is almost certain to win, since the other important Labour figure, Mr. Robert Hawke, the party president and trade union leader, is ineligible because he is not a member of Parliament. Nevertheless, moves are being made to find Mr. Hawke a seat and if one can be found he could be a possibility for the leadership.

The election result could hardly be worse for the Labour Party. Two years ago Mr. Whitlam's Government was thrown out, mainly because the electorate held it responsible for Australia's economic downturn. Two years later, unemployment is up, national income is stagnant, and yet Mr. Fraser has been returned with a big majority.

While the coalition lost votes to the Australian Democrats, so did Labour. In unfavourable circumstances the Government has almost maintained its status quo in the lower House. All this suggests that Mr. Whitlam, whatever his achievements in the past, had become an electoral liability. After 25 years in Parliament, his exit from the leadership bordered on tragic.

Mr. Fraser promised last night that the re-elected Government would seek to "reach out beyond the bounds of politics and unite all Australians in common purposes and objectives".

The Prime Minister's only immediate problem, apart from the ever-increasing unemployment figures, is to make a decision about the future of Mr. Philip Lynch, the former Treasurer who was forced to resign at the start of the campaign after accusations of profiteering.

Mr. Fraser, who is 47, can now claim to be as dominant a figure as Sir Robert Menzies, as was Sir Robert Menzies.

The pollsters have come out of the election well. All the polls predicted a Government win during the last two weeks, and all said the Australian Democrats would rise up to 10 per cent of the vote.

Leading article, page 15

Three quit Turkey's ruling party

From Our Correspondent Ankara, Dec 11

The makings of a political crisis began in Turkey today with the resignation of three deputies from the ruling Justice Party, announced on the national radio in local elections.

The resignations leave the ruling coalition with a one-man majority in the 450-member National Assembly.

A spokesman from the Republican People's Party, the social democratic opposition led by Mr. Bülent Ecevit, refused to comment apart from saying that the resignations appeared to be "a natural result of the contradictions and misunderstandings rampant in the Government".

Polling in the local elections was extremely hot and not expected to be over 50 per cent.

At least four people were killed in election eve violence. Two people were killed in Ormanik, in northern Turkey, a 14-year-old boy was shot dead in the south-east town of Gaziantep and a woman bystander died in a gun fight between rivals in a village near the Russian border.

Janata Government to keep detention without trial

From Kuldip Nayyar, Delhi, Dec 11

India's Janata Government, which won the elections on a platform promising to end detention without trial, has tabled a Bill continuing the measure.

Official sources said the Government had had second thoughts because of a continuing spate of sabotage and growing labour unrest.

The Bill proposes to scrap the Bored Maintenance of Internal Security Act employed by Mrs. Gandhi during the state of emergency and replace it with a detention law similar to

that employed by the British Raj.

The aim will be to "minimise the chances of abuse" by the authorities.

While keeping the powers of preventive detention intact, the new Bill proposes three safeguards.

There will be a more prompt judicial review; the authorities will be obliged to state the reasons for the detention (to avoid the "indiscriminate arrests" occurring during the emergency); and the duration of detention will be limited to six months, after which the previous Act of detention was indefinite.

India-Nepal treaties expected soon

From Richard Wigg, Kathmandu, Dec 11

Mr. Desai, the Indian Prime Minister, said today that he expects India and Nepal to sign two separate treaties very soon, governing transit and bilateral trade matters. He was speaking at the end of a two-day official goodwill visit here.

Officials of both countries are to meet in the next few weeks to settle the final details of the treaties which are already in draft form.

It seems that Mr. Desai's talks with King Birendra and Nepalese ministers have given a political push to help overcome the deep-rooted suspicions the Nepalese feel at their economic dependence on their powerful neighbour.

For more than a decade Nepal has been seeking to separate an agreement on trade from a treaty which would recognize its right of access to the sea and so help expand its trade with third countries.

Several of the world's least developed countries are landlocked, but Nepal's problem

arises from its situation along the Himalayan "wall" adjoining the landlocked mass of central Asia.

In return for India's freedom of transit both sides have agreed that effective measures must be established to control smuggling along their virtually open border.

Mr. Desai emphasized that while India supported Nepal's efforts to diversify its economic links, a way must be found so that such trade did not harm the other country's interests.

The Indians have followed up King Birendra's proposal for a joint development of Nepal's vast hydroelectric potential.

It was agreed that a start should be made on a hydroelectric project in west Nepal which is estimated to cost about £200m over 15 years and India has affirmed its intention of having surplus power.

Mr. Desai told reporters nothing had been said in their talks about Mr. B. P. Koirala, the former Nepalese Prime Minister

and Social Democrat, who is detained here and awaiting trial on treason charges. He said India would not interfere in Nepal's internal affairs.

But Lord Avebury, the British Liberal peer who was on a visit here, declared yesterday that "human rights are not a luxury which can be afforded only by the rich nations". He was speaking at a small gathering organized by word of mouth by the Nepal branch of Amnesty International.

There were many students at the meeting which was held in a field after the organizers said permission to hold it in a public hall had been refused.

Lord Avebury praised those men and women who were courageous enough to protest against violation of fellow human beings' rights. He gave a warning that if a people collectively accepted such a state of affairs governments would be helped to refuse to respond to international pressure from bodies like Amnesty International.

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Mr Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, about to embrace Mr Vance, the American Secretary of State, before beginning their talks in Jerusalem.

Mr Sadat tells of his peace aims

From Charles Hargrove, Cairo, Dec 11

President Sadat said in Cairo yesterday that he would pursue his personal initiative for peace in the Middle East to the bitter end.

"Let each assume his responsibilities before his own people, before the Arab nation, before the world," he said.

The Egyptian leader was being interviewed by French and foreign journalists, including myself, who were flown to Cairo by Europe Number One, the French radio station.

The interview took place at his country residence in the Nile delta just after Mr. Sadat had met Mr. Cyrus Vance, the American Secretary of State.

The President said he wanted a global settlement, not a separate peace with Israel. But he made it quite clear that if the other Arab countries were not prepared to go along with him, he would negotiate a global settlement on his own.

He said that when he had gone to Jerusalem, Mr. Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, had asked him to stay a day longer and conclude a separate peace. "I said no for that is not my aim. And today, with Mr. Vance, we agreed that the aim of the Cairo conference

(which is due to begin on Wednesday) and then of Geneva, is a global solution and permanent peace."

He had also agreed with Mr. Vance that "shortly after the Cairo conference, there would be a meeting of foreign ministers."

President Sadat indicated that his objective was the re-convening of the Geneva peace conference, but it was obvious to us that he was not prepared to let the momentum of his visit to Jerusalem get lost in procedural sands or be scuttled by the obstruction of Russia, the hardline Arab states or the Palestinians.

He said they could join the new trail to peace which he had blazed and come to Cairo at any time, but they could not blur it.

He had harsh words for all of them. He said the Russians had accused him of "propaganda" and "peace in the Middle East by going to Jerusalem, yet when he was in Moscow in 1977, they had suggested he meet Mrs. Golda Meir, the then Prime Minister of Israel, in Tashkent. They had tried to blackmail Egypt over arms deliveries. "Relations could be restored, if I agreed, Russia

should be our protector, but that is something I will never accept," Mr. Sadat declared.

He said the hardline Arab states and the Palestinians were "moved by hatred and ignorance". The Tripoli meeting last week in effect had cancelled the Arab strategy worked out at Rabat.

The president added: "Now if Israel agrees to evacuate the occupied territories, they [the hardline states] will refuse to endorse it. This puzzle state of affairs is the sole result of the meeting presided over by that demagogue child Gaddafi [Colonel Gaddafi, the Libyan leader]."

David Cross writes from Washington: President Carter will consider virtually anything to secure a Middle East settlement, including a personal mission if this proved necessary. But he has no immediate plans to intervene personally in the current round of Middle East deliberations.

Mr. Carter revealed this to a group of visiting editors and television and radio news directors during a meeting last week. A transcript of his remarks was published here this weekend.

Prisoners of conscience

Hungary

Sandor Rudovics

By David Watts

Mr. Sandor Rudovics is in Szombathely prison, Hungary. His only crime is the illegal crossing of a frontier.

At the age of 13 he was sent to a reform school after trying to leave Hungary in 1963. After his release he married Mrs. Purokai Juraska in 1971. He worked as a trainee shoe craftsman and his wife worked to help keep their baby daughter.

Two years later the couple were divorced after living in a desperate financial situation. A few months later they were reunited.

Afraid to take their daughter with them, the couple crossed the border into Austria on the night of October 3, 1972. After reaching an Austrian refugee camp they were remarried and later had another child.

Missing his first child, Mr. Rudovics decided to risk returning to Hungary and accepting his fate as a refugee before, but he was caught and jailed for two years.

On his release he took up his old job in the shoe factory in Szombathely, but was unhappy without his wife and son. So on August 17 last year, he tried to leave Hungary again, but was arrested at Keszeg.

Cairo to leave seats of boycott states empty

Cairo, Dec 11—Mr. Butros Ghali, Egypt's Foreign Minister, said today that all arrangements for the Middle East peace talks here have been completed, and the conference would open at 10.30 am on Wednesday at the Mena House Hotel.

Mr. Ghali said the seats of the nations and organizations which have said they would boycott the conference would be left vacant—an indication that Egypt hoped they would join the talks at a later stage.

Only Israel, the United States and the United Nations have accepted the Egyptian invitation for the meeting called to prepare for an "overall settlement to be agreed at Geneva."

The Soviet Union, Syria, Lebanon and the Palestine Liberation Organization said they would not participate in the Cairo talks. Jordan has made its presence conditional on the participation of all the parties.

Mr. Ghali said the negotiations would be conducted across a round-table.

Foreign Ministry officials said no decision had been reached yet on whether the seat of the Palestinians would carry the tag of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) or simply be labelled "Palestinians".

The opening session will be public and will last about half an hour.

Beirut: A PLO leader today called for violence in response to President Sadat's peace overtures, to Israel. He said the Arabs should strengthen their links with the Soviet Union and other communist countries.

Mr. Salah Khader, better known by his code name Abu Jihad, and the number two man in Al Fatah after Mr. Yasser Arafat, told the leftist Beirut newspaper *As-Safir* that the revolutionary masses should use all kinds of revolutionary violence until the revisionists get scared.

He added: "We have to deepen in sincere strategy our links to the socialist camp by tying our destiny to theirs. Our Soviet friends should feel we are serious this time."—UPI.

Korchnoi takes 5-2 lead over Spassky

Belgrade, Dec 11—Boris Spassky resigned his adjourned seventh chess game against Viktor Korchnoi after only seven further moves last night.

Korchnoi now leads 5-2 in the 20-game match to decide who will challenge Anatoly Karpov, the world champion.

Korchnoi was a pawn up at the adjournment after surprising his opponent with an unusual eleventh move and later shattering his position with a temporary rook sacrifice. These were the moves of the game:

White: Korchnoi. Black: Spassky. Queen's Gambit.

1. P-Q4 P-Q4 2. P-Q3 P-Q3 3. P-Q2 P-Q2 4. P-Q1 P-Q1 5. P-Q2 P-Q2 6. P-Q3 P-Q3 7. P-Q4 P-Q4 8. P-Q5 P-Q5 9. P-Q6 P-Q6 10. P-Q7 P-Q7 11. P-Q8 P-Q8 12. P-Q9 P-Q9 13. P-Q10 P-Q10 14. P-Q11 P-Q11 15. P-Q12 P-Q12 16. P-Q13 P-Q13 17. P-Q14 P-Q14 18. P-Q15 P-Q15 19. P-Q16 P-Q16 20. P-Q17 P-Q17 21. P-Q18 P-Q18 22. P-Q19 P-Q19 23. P-Q20 P-Q20 24. P-Q21 P-Q21 25. P-Q22 P-Q22 26. P-Q23 P-Q23 27. P-Q24 P-Q24 28. P-Q25 P-Q25 29. P-Q26 P-Q26 30. P-Q27 P-Q27 31. P-Q28 P-Q28 32. P-Q29 P-Q29 33. P-Q30 P-Q30 34. P-Q31 P-Q31 35. P-Q32 P-Q32 36. P-Q33 P-Q33 37. P-Q34 P-Q34 38. P-Q35 P-Q35 39. P-Q36 P-Q36 40. P-Q37 P-Q37 41. P-Q38 P-Q38 42. P-Q39 P-Q39 43. P-Q40 P-Q40 44. P-Q41 P-Q41 45. P-Q42 P-Q42 46. P-Q43 P-Q43 47. P-Q44 P-Q44 48. P-Q45 P-Q45 49. P-Q46 P-Q46 50. P-Q47 P-Q47 51. P-Q48 P-Q48 52. P-Q49 P-Q49 53. P-Q50 P-Q50 54. P-Q51 P-Q51 55. P-Q52 P-Q52 56. P-Q53 P-Q53 57. P-Q54 P-Q54 58. P-Q55 P-Q55 59. P-Q56 P-Q56 60. P-Q57 P-Q57 61. P-Q58 P-Q58 62. P-Q59 P-Q59 63. P-Q60 P-Q60 64. P-Q61 P-Q61 65. P-Q62 P-Q62 66. P-Q63 P-Q63 67. P-Q64 P-Q64 68. P-Q65 P-Q65 69. P-Q66 P-Q66 70. P-Q67 P-Q67 71. P-Q68 P-Q68 72. P-Q69 P-Q69 73. P-Q70 P-Q70 74. P-Q71 P-Q71 75. P-Q72 P-Q72 76. P-Q73 P-Q73 77. P-Q74 P-Q74 78. P-Q75 P-Q75 79. P-Q76 P-Q76 80. P-Q77 P-Q77 81. P-Q78 P-Q78 82. P-Q79 P-Q79 83. P-Q80 P-Q80 84. P-Q81 P-Q81 85. P-Q82 P-Q82 86. P-Q83 P-Q83 87. P-Q84 P-Q84 88. P-Q85 P-Q85 89. P-Q86 P-Q86 90. P-Q87 P-Q87 91. P-Q88 P-Q88 92. P-Q89 P-Q89 93. P-Q90 P-Q90 94. P-Q91 P-Q91 95. P-Q92 P-Q92 96. P-Q93 P-Q93 97. P-Q94 P-Q94 98. P-Q95 P-Q95 99. P-Q96 P-Q96 100. P-Q97 P-Q97 101. P-Q98 P-Q98 102. P-Q99 P-Q99 103. P-Q100 P-Q100 104. P-Q101 P-Q101 105. P-Q102 P-Q102 106. P-Q103 P-Q103 107. P-Q104 P-Q104 108. P-Q105 P-Q105 109. P-Q106 P-Q106 110. P-Q107 P-Q107 111. P-Q108 P-Q108 112. P-Q109 P-Q109 113. P-Q110 P-Q110 114. P-Q111 P-Q111 115. P-Q112 P-Q112 116. P-Q113 P-Q113 117. P-Q114 P-Q114 118. P-Q115 P-Q115 119. P-Q116 P-Q116 120. P-Q117 P-Q117 121. P-Q118 P-Q118 122. P-Q119 P-Q119 123. 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THE ARTS

Three Sisters
Barnet Theatre
Company

Irving Wardle

A linked group of communitarian villages on the Hertfordshire border, Barnet is the North London equivalent of Greenwich, and just as natural a candidate for an outer circle playhouse. As a first step in that direction we have the Barnet Theatre Company, a nucleus of professional actors with local industrial backing, who have just tested the potential public with a series of packed-out performances of *Three Sisters* at Barnet College.

John Sichel's production was a part professional, part amateur affair with all the switchbacks of quality you would expect; but it was an interesting piece of work by any standard. Built round the group's most forceful actor, Richard Mayes, the production shifts the class relationship between Vershinin and the Prozorovs. Vershinin becomes a rugged, almost old-fashioned, his guard from the start against the other officers, and inflexibly hostile towards the Baron. "I," he says pointedly, "did not go to the military academy," driving the sub-home with a turned back. The girls, on the other hand, are exposed as languidly affected creatures of their class, hopelessly clinging to this tough outsider when they run into trouble. In short, the same pattern as that of Lopakhin and the Ramevsky household in *The Cherry Orchard*. Innovation apart, traditional Chekhov was well served in performance by James Maguire's generally effective Kuligin and Richard's Byronic Sonya.

We shall be hearing more of the company in 1978, with productions of Feydeau and a locally discovered Restoration comedy.

The Men who Made the Movies
BBC 2

Stanley Reynolds

Richard Schickel, the author and critic, who writes, directs, and produces *The Men who Made the Movies* series for National Educational Television, which is America's answer to BBC 2, should for his own protection be better known in Britain. At least he should not be known merely as the man who wrote *The Men who Made the Movies*. The BBC for a few years now has been using the series to kick-off strings of old films. It makes Mr Schickel appear like yet another one of those "American" voices, full of wind and pretension, and Mr Schickel is a good critic and writer.

With Vincente Minnelli on Saturday night Mr Schickel opened with some bizarre notion that the director of all those fantastical musicals at MGM was somehow like Gustav Flaubert, a realist who knew the dangers of fantasy. Indeed, Vincente Minnelli, a lover of French culture, did direct *Madame Butterfly* as well; but once Mr Schickel had heavily into the rut of the argument, he seemed unable to climb out. Because of this the good fun, for example, of Fred Astaire to the lovelorn, singing "That's Entertainment" (where a ghost and a prince meet) and everything ends in mince meat or even Judy Garland, at her best, singing the Troll Song from *Moe in St. Louis* had to have the leaden weights of Mr Schickel's essay on the social significance of Vincente Minnelli attached to them. Lead weights do not become the nimble tread of the feet of Fred Astaire.

After the documentary viewers saw some *Come Running*, an appalling motion picture made, somehow gloriously not by Mr Minnelli's dancing camera but by the straight no-stopping acting of Sinatra, Shirley MacLaine, and especially Dean

Stupendous Triumphs

Jeffery Daniels

An exhibition consisting of only eight paintings sounds like a very modest affair but when it is arranged by David Carriv, larger expectations are naturally aroused. Mr Carriv is one of the few art experts whose name means something outside the confines of the world of museum curators, collectors and dealers: he is the man who found the beautiful Raphael ceiling (now in the National Gallery) in the Egyptian Embassy in London, exactly where all the books said it ought to be, and more recently he has announced that a picture he acquired at the Antwerp sale as by Carle van Loo, is in fact an early, documented work by his pupil Jean-Honoré Fragonard.

He has just opened the first floor of his premises in Duke Street, St James's, as a public gallery, and his first exhibition, which continues until December 20, consists of three works by Domenico Fetti, and five by Alessandro Magnasco, both highly individual artists opposed to the smooth, classical tradition of Bologna and Rome. Fetti was a Venetian born (c. 1589) in Rovereto, studying under Ludovico Cigoli, a Florentine who worked in a sound if unexciting High Renaissance manner. The most important influences on the young painter came, however, from elsewhere, namely the *Caravaggisti*. (The followers of Michelangelo's *St. Michael* known as *Il Caravaggio*) and from the German landscape painter Adam Elsheimer, who spent the last 10 years of his life in Rome, dying there in the same year as Caravaggio, 1610. Three years later Fetti moved to Mantua, whose ruler, Duke Ferdinando Gonzaga, owned one of the finest collections in Europe, some of which were acquired by the Duke of Buckingham on behalf of Charles I. Its greatest treasures were the masterpieces by Venetians, especially Titian, and by Rubens, who had been the previous Duke's largely absentee court-painter.

It must have been Fetti's famous series of Roman Emperors that inspired the two monumental head-length figures of Poets in this exhibition, the colouring is richly sombre, the technique loaded and sensual, and although their precise identification is unsure, they are compelling images, and seem almost too strong for the relatively small room in which they hang. The third work, on the other hand, is perfectly in scale, an exquisite little panel depicting *The Poet in the Treasure* hidden in a field, painted towards the end of Fetti's brief career, in Venice, whither he moved about 1618, leaving there four years later. In it he recalls the smallest figure-compositions of Elsheimer, although the landscape background is very Venetian and the treatment of the dress is reminiscent of Giorgione.

The other painter, Alessandro Magnasco, is more idiosyncratic, specialising in scenes of inquisitorial torture, religious frenzy, and bacchanalian excess, executed in a splashy, calligraphic style that in his later pictures is a sort of visual shorthand. The most imposing are a magnificent *St. Francis Preaching to the Birds*, *The Triumph of Bacchus*, and, in companion, *The Triumph of Ariadne* wrongly



Magnasco and Spera: The Triumph of Ariadne (detail)

identified as a *Triumph of Venus* (the female in the chariot carries a wand entwined with vine-leaves, and as the catalogue points out, there is a total absence of doves, the inalienable attribute of Venus). In both, the architecture and landscape are by Clemente Spera, with whom Magnasco collaborated on many occasions, especially during his first Milanese period, before 1702. He had arrived in Milan from his birthplace, Genoa, in 1677 to study with Filippo Abbiati, but in Magnasco's case the strongest influence came from elsewhere, the rich legacy of paintings by Cardinal Federico Borromeo's friend Il Morazzone.

Before 1698 Magnasco was working with Spera on ambitious compositions for the new *Black-coloured* church, where household accounts record payments to both for two "quadri grandi" in 1699 and whose inventory, drawn up about 1700, lists *The Triumph of Bacchus* with numerous figures "grotescamente anatomizzate" which

sound very similar to the work exhibited. Three others could be those in the *Hermione*, Leningrad, one of which, a *Bacchanal*, contains several figures so close to ones in the two "Triumphs" in this exhibition that they must all three date from the same period in the painter's career. The Leningrad picture (not mentioned in the Carriv catalogue) is dated by the museum about 1710, which is therefore at least 10 years too late, while the dating proposed for these of 1720-30, is a fortiori clearly impossible. Whatever the reservations about the inadequate research, there can be none about the pictures themselves, which are quite simply stupendous.

The other three are correctly described as late works, the *Saint Anthony* preaching to the *Beasts* exhibiting what is aptly described as "dramatic turbulence of theme as well as brushwork", whereas *The Tame Magpie* is surprisingly bright in colouring and wrought to an unusually high degree of "finish". The most interesting of all is another

triumph, this time of vice over the arts, to which Mr Carriv has given the evocative title *The Reign of the Courtisan*. A braying ass tramples upon the prostrate figure of Painting, a black pig usurps the throne of earthly power while another admires itself in a looking glass and a third is fed uthills by an army officer in a scarlet coat and feathered tricorn, seated at the foot of the harlot's bed. She is also attended by an aged grant cigarette, a young cleric and a fop who is a near relative of the young Earl in Hogarth's *Marriage à la Mode* series, and indeed it is suggested that Magnasco may well have seen some of Hogarth's engravings, notably *The Harlot's Progress*. The banding in this remarkable picture is generally loose and broad but touched with bits of *impasto* that give its surface a sparkle which only serves to underline the power of this scathing indictment of the false values of a decadent and philistine society.

Eight pictures, yes; but each one is a rare and real treat.

The Taming of the Shrew
Covent Garden

John Percival

There were moments at the *Taming of the Shrew* on Friday when it felt as if the bluster is at least partly put on. That hint of underlying seriousness does not prevent touches of very naughty humour, especially in the way his curled-up toes suggest delicious dreams after he has been stripped and left lying drunk by the two whores.

That couple were made funnier and sexier than before by new performers Sandra Conley and Sally Ashby. Bianca's suitors were a notably eccentric, woebegone trio with Derek Deane transferring to Bentley coming in as Horatio. Lucendo, Wayne Sleep replacing him as Gremio and Stephen, all of them providing much droll detail. There were brilliant moments of acrobatic dancing, too, from the ensemble in the carnival scene, masked and therefore unidentifiable.

The Taming of the Shrew
Covent Garden

Stephen Jefferies brings a fine bull-boy swagger to Petruchio but makes the part more rewarding by letting it be seen, through the wariness with which he first tackles Kate, that the bluster is at least partly put on. That hint of underlying seriousness does not prevent touches of very naughty humour, especially in the way his curled-up toes suggest delicious dreams after he has been stripped and left lying drunk by the two whores.

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Good Lord Protector

Oliver Cromwell
By Roger Howell

(Hutchinson, £4.50)
John Hampden was once asked for his opinion about a fellow member of the Long Parliament. He replied: "That slovenly fellow which you see before us, who hath no ornament in his speech; I say that sloven if we should come to have a breach with the king (which God forbid) in such case will be one of the greatest men in England." He was referring to his cousin, Oliver Cromwell.

To Englishmen Cromwell is their only republican head of state, their only ruler drawn from the heart of provincial England. And he reflects back to them their own inner conflicts and contradictions, qualities which trouble and bewilder the foreigner. He could display that marvellous combination of humility with arrogant self-certainty; the reluctance to take power mingled with the delight in its exercise; a deep religious faith nicely blended with a self-regarding arrogance.

Roger Howell is an American scholar of the younger generation who, in the compass of some 250 pages, provides numerous insights into Cromwell's personality, objectives and achievements. Diplomacy gets rather brief consideration, but his actions in Ireland are justly assessed in their immediate and long-term effects. In matters of faith, government and politics the author manages to say fresh and illuminating things, well supported by a good command of the sources, and presented in a most readable form; and he is particularly good in his account of Cromwell's genius as a soldier.

We never lost sight of Cromwell the man amidst the absorbing story of the dramatic episodes of his career. His family was certainly in the mind, as was the country from which he came and to which, so he said, he longed to return. But driven forward by the belief that he had a mission from God, he may well have been the prisoner of his illusion of spiritual grandeur. An opponent described one of his speeches as "an audacious, ambitious, and hypocritical imitation of Moses"; but he was much more complex than any imitator.

Cromwell was caught up in a paradox. He came to power not by election but by force yet he tried to establish government by consent through the Petition of Right. Although a committed puritan he was well ahead of his contemporaries in his advance towards toleration; and in this and other ways he alienated many of his supporters and reduced them by the slender parliamentary resources at his disposal. As Napoleon once said of himself, he was reared in the camp not on the throne; and there was no assured historic or constitutional base to his authority.

A success in war, a failure in peace, he deserved also to be remembered for his speeches and letters. It is true that he could present a turgid, introspective account of his close relationship with the Almighty. But, at his best, he was master of a direct, lucid and moving prose which carried down to us echoes of the rich cadences of the Elizabethan world into which he was born.

Joel Hurstfield

Wren Orchestra/Snell
Queen Elizabeth Hall

Paul Griffiths

The Wren Orchestra is a curious institution. Supported by a local radio station (Capital Radio) and drawing players from a pool of young musicians, it is an ensemble without any special conviction, whether of style or of repertoire. Its conductor, the Wren, is a good musician, but Snell is a good musician, too, after hearing two of his concerts with the Wren I begin to doubt if he has anything very exceptional to give from the podium.

As for the orchestra's programmes, they follow the paths well trodden by such groups as the English Chamber Orchestra and the Academy of St Martin-in-the-Fields, except for such events as a fortnightly concert of "music for the films" which is promised will include the complete performance of Grieg's piano concerto.

Jones Cantata
Swansea

Kenneth Loveland

The poetry of the Breton mystic, George Herbert, evoked from Daniel Jones in 1951 a well wrought cantata, *The Country Beyond the Stars*, which still represents him at his most fluent and communicative. For his BBC Wales silver jubilee commission he has again turned to a mystic, this time William Blake.

The result, *Hear the Voice of the Ancient Bard*, a choral suite heard at Swansea on Friday, goes some way towards repeating the success of its predecessor, but fails to achieve its purpose at the centre, the very point where relationship between words and music is most necessary.

The composer seeks to reflect the three plateaux of Blake's world as he sees it, involving the passage from the superficially beautiful to disillusionment, thence to the rejection of false values and the realization of a higher attainment.

The first and last stages are effectively expressed. *I Love the Joyous Dance* gives Jones a chance to bring off one of those brilliant scherzos that regularly enliven his writing, and *Hear the Voice of the Ancient Bard* creates exactly the musical impression of Blake's philosophy for which the composer is searching.

But the central and longest section does not suggest the disillusionment essential to Dr Jones's pattern; the music suddenly loses character and is no more than distant in touch with poems such as *O rose thou art sick*, and *The Cloud*, and *The Poet*.

Throughout, the writing does not suggest that stylistically Dr Jones has moved very far since *The Country Beyond the Stars*, although we know several orchestral works in the years between that deny this. Regularly the music takes on the kind of visionary idealism that composers of two generations ago called up for Walt Whitman. However, the practicality of the music, and its directness of approach, should earn for the suite many friends among choral societies.

The work was conscientiously performed by the BBC Welsh Symphony Orchestra and Choral Society, conducted by Gunter Herbig, whose short visit to Wales is showing the excellence of which this orchestra is capable under the best conditions.

New Bond play at the Warehouse

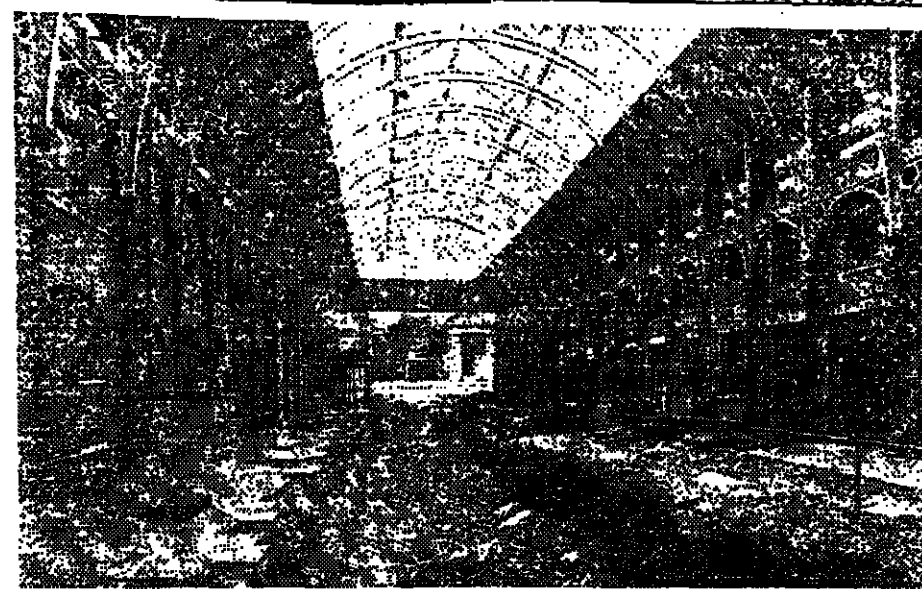
Edward Bond's new play *The Bundle* will be given its opening performances at the RSC's Warehouse from tomorrow.

Some of the notices on this page are reprinted from Saturday's later editions.

ART GALLERIES

SERPENTINE GALLERY, Kensington
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918-920, 922-924, 926-928, 930-932, 934-936, 938-940, 942-944, 946-948, 950-952, 954-956, 958-960, 962-964, 966-968, 970-972, 974-976, 978-980, 982-984, 986-988, 990-992, 994-996, 998-1000, 1002-1004, 1006-1008, 1010-1012, 1014-1016, 1018-1020, 1022-1024, 1026-1028, 1030-1032, 1034-1036, 1038-1040, 1042-1044, 1046-1048, 1050-1052, 1054-1056, 1058-1060, 1062-1064, 1066-1068, 1070-1072, 1074-1076, 1078-1080, 1082-1084, 1086-1088, 1090-1092, 1094-1096, 1098-1100, 1102-1104, 1106-1108, 1110-1112, 1114-1116, 1118-1120, 1122-1124, 1126-1128, 1130-1132, 1134-1136, 1138-1140, 1142-1144, 1146-1148, 1150-1152, 1154-1156, 1158-1160, 1162-1164, 1166-1168, 1170-1172, 1174-1176, 1178-1180, 1182-1184, 1186-1188, 1190-1192, 1194-1196, 1198-1200, 1202-1204, 1206-1208, 1210-1212, 1214-1216, 1218-1220, 1222-1224, 1226-1228, 1230-1232, 1234-1236, 1238-1240, 1242-1244, 1246-1248, 1250-1252, 1254-1256, 1258-1260, 1262-1264, 1266-1268, 1270-1272, 1274-1276, 1278-1280, 1282-1284, 1286-1288, 1290-1292, 1294-1296, 1298-1300, 1302-1304, 1306-1308, 1310-1312, 1314-1316, 1318-1320, 1322-1324, 1326-1328, 1330-1332, 1334-1336, 1338-1340, 1342-1344, 1346-1348, 1350-1352, 1354-1356, 1358-1360, 1362-1364, 1366-1368, 1370-1372, 1374-1376, 1378-1380, 1382-1384, 1386-1388, 1390-1392, 1394-1396, 1398-1400, 1402-1404, 1406-1408, 1410-1412, 1414-1416, 1418-1420, 1422-1424, 1426-1428, 1430-1432, 1434-1436, 1438-1440, 1442-1444, 1446-1448, 1450-1452, 1454-1456, 1458-1460, 1462-1464, 1466-1468, 1470-1472, 1474-1476, 1478-1480, 1482-1484, 1486-1488, 1490-1492, 1494-1496, 1498-1500, 1502-1504, 1506-1508, 1510-1512, 1514-1516, 1518-1520, 1522-1524, 1526-1528, 1530-1532, 1534-1536, 1538-1540, 1542-1544, 1546-1548, 1550-1552, 1554-1556, 1558-1560, 1562-1564, 1566-1568, 1570-1572, 1574-1576, 1578-1580, 1582-1584, 1586-1588, 1590-1592, 1594-1596, 1598-1600, 1602-1604, 1606-1608, 1610-1612, 1614-1616, 1618-1620, 1622-1624, 1626-1628, 1630-1632, 1634-1636, 1638-1640, 1642-1644, 1646-1648, 1650-1652, 1654-1656, 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2022-2024, 2026-2028, 2030-2032, 2034-2036, 2038-2040, 2042-2044, 2046-2048, 2050-2052, 2054-2056, 2058-2060, 2062-2064, 2066-2068, 2070-2072, 2074-2076, 2078-2080, 2082-2084, 2086-2088, 2090-2092, 2094-2096, 2098-2100, 2102-2104, 2106-2108, 2110-2112, 2114-2116, 2118-2120, 2122-2124, 2126-2128, 2130-2132, 2134-2136, 2138-2140, 2142-2144, 2146-2148, 2150-2152, 2154-2156, 2158-2160, 2162-2164, 2166-2168, 2170-2172, 2174-2176, 2178-2180, 2182-2184, 2186-2188, 2190-2192, 2194-2196, 2198-2200, 2202-2204, 2206-2208, 2210-2212, 2214-2216, 2218-2220, 2222-2224, 2226-2228, 2230-2232, 2234-2236, 2238-2240, 2242-2244, 2246-2248, 2250-2252, 2254-2256, 2258-2260, 2262-2264, 2266-2268, 2270-2272, 2274-2276, 2278-2280, 2282-2284, 2286-2288, 2290-2292, 2294-2296, 2298-2300, 2302-2304, 2306-2308, 2310-2312, 2314-2316, 2318-2320, 2322-2324, 2326-2328, 2330-2332, 2334-2336, 2338-2340, 2342-2344, 2346-2348, 2350-2352, 2354-2356, 2358-2360, 2362-2364, 2366-2368, 2370-2372, 2374-2376, 2378-2380, 2382-2384, 2386-2388, 2390-2392, 2394-2396, 2398-2400, 2402-2404, 2406-2408, 2410-2412, 2414-2416, 2418-2420, 2422-2424, 2426-2428, 2430-2432, 2434-2436, 2438-2440, 2442-2444, 2446-2448, 2450-2452, 2454-2456, 2458-2460, 2462-2464, 2466-2468, 2470-2472, 2474-2476, 2478-2480, 2482-2484, 2486-2488, 2490-2492, 2494-2496, 2498-2500, 2502-2504, 2506-2508, 2510-2512, 2514-2

Commercial Property



Part of the original Covent Garden central market building, where old cellars are being excavated to produce sunken courtyards.

The Continental property market continues to show signs of activity, more particularly, perhaps, in the office letting sector.

From Belgium comes news that in a state of lettings Jones Lang Wootton have let the whole of the space owned by Tower Group Properties in the Arbury Tower, one of the most conspicuous buildings in the city.

Tower Group owns six floors, totalling some 5,640 sq metres. Latest tenants include the German consulate, Stal Laval and the Dutch export company, Rens.

The American Embassy is expanding its facilities in Brussels by leasing the new development recently completed by Herpin at 25 Boulevard de la Reine. In the Quarter Leonid, adjacent to the Embassy's present premises, the building, Regent 25, has 3,502 sq metres of air-conditioned offices and is opposite the Rue des Arts, between the EEC headquarters and the Royal Park. This letting was made through Jones Lang Wootton.

A series of lettings in Brussels is reported by Foley and Baker & Co. In one a firm of Belgian architects has taken 1,500 sq metres in the Monsieuro Building, in Avenue de Tervuren. A further 1,300 sq metres have been let in the Commercial Union building, 23 Avenue des Arts to SDRB, a branch of the Belgian government.

FT Europe is to lease 1,250 sq metres at 489 Avenue Louise, a development recently carried out by Generali. Rents obtained were all between 2,200 and 2,600 francs a sq metre.

The agents point out that it is of interest that the new lettings are spread over different office sectors in the city, rather than confined to any given zone. The tenants represent a cross-section of different activities.

Back in London, Myton, Ltd., member of the Taylor Wood-

Flurry of activity in Belgium

row group, has started work on the transformation of the original central market building in Covent Garden for the Greater London Council. As E2m, it is believed to be the largest contract ever awarded by a local authority for the restoration of a derelict building.

The GLC plans to restore the central building as nearly as possible to its original state and adapt it for use as a shopping area with offices and leisure facilities.

Due for completion in the spring of 1980, it is part of the larger scheme for the whole area. An interesting point is that the building is a labyrinth of over 200 small brick cellars, which were used mainly for storing fruit. Some will be excavated and opened up to create sunken courtyards with staircases from ground level.

The Covent Garden Market Authority has sold a site of some two acres of surplus land adjoining the main entrance of the new Covent Garden market at Vauxhall for a price approaching £20,000. The land is to be developed by Flaxley Industrial, who are to build a wholesale cash-and-carry unit of 35,000 sq ft which has been let to Lonsdale and Thomson, a subsidiary of Unilever International.

This will occupy about three-quarters of the development and the remainder will consist of two factories of 6,250 sq ft each.

Knight Frank and Bailey acted for the market authority and Peter Taylor and Co for Flaxley. Both have been retained as letting agents.

The New Forest District Council has nominated Tesco as developer for the Ringwood town centre redevelopment scheme, which underlines the increasing tendency for retailers to act as their own developers. The site lies between the main

public car park and the High Street and the aim is to revitalize an under-used and semi-derelict part of the town centre.

Plans provide for a major new supermarket of about 25,000 sq ft gross and nine shops, to cost a little over £1m. Architects are Jackson Green and Down. The site is within a conservation area and the scheme has been designed to harmonize with the existing architecture of the area.

It will include a listed Victorian meeting house within the landscaped pedestrian mall. Tesco was selected by the council from among a number of companies invited to submit proposals. Builders Parker, May and Rowden & Consultants to the council have advised on the preparation of the developer's brief and assessment of the submissions.

Building work is well under way on a new shop development in the centre of the town, designed by Commercial Union Properties. Designed by John Brown and Partners, the scheme consists of five units and has a frontage of about 87 ft to Pinstone Street.

It is due for completion in late July, 1978 to allow ample time for shop-fittings before Christmas. Lettings in the new development are being handled by Eason Lockwood and Riddle, of Sheffield, and Hillier Parker May and Rowden.

Malingsgrove Ltd has let a warehouse of 17,300 sq ft on its Glebe Farm industrial estate in Rugby to Access Equipment Ltd. This brings the total amount of space now disposed of on the estate to nearly 80,000 sq ft with negotiations nearing conclusion on a further 27,700 sq ft. There are further units ranging from 3,375 to 17,300 sq ft available for immediate occupation.

Rents are from 50p a sq ft. The estate is well located in relation to the motorway network and other tenants include Newton and Bennett, Kingsbury Tricking.

Malingsgrove intends to continue its development plans for the estate, with construction of a third phase to be ready in 1978 in which tenants' requirements could be incorporated. Joint letting agents for the estate are Chamberlain and Williams and Don Willis and Associates.

Gerald Ely

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The applicant will be required to take charge of the Company's input to British Consortia tendering for educational projects overseas as well as handling the supervision of industrial training schemes in the U.K. Applicants should have professional qualifications and either industrial or academic experience.

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Please send Curriculum Vitae with names and addresses of three referees to:
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Applications are invited for the post of Lecturer in Law at the University of Queensland. The post is a full-time position and the holder will be responsible for the work of the Department of Law.

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Applications are invited for the post of Lecturer in Environmental Planning/Urban Planning at the University of Queensland. The post is a full-time position and the holder will be responsible for the work of the Department of Environmental Planning/Urban Planning.

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University of Newcastle

CHAIR IN EDUCATION
Applications are invited for the post of Chair in Education at the University of Newcastle. The post is a full-time position and the holder will be responsible for the work of the Department of Education.

University of Newcastle
LECTURER SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND ITS INSTITUTE FOR MODERN BIOGRAPHY
Applications are invited for the post of Lecturer in the School of Humanities and its Institute for Modern Biography at the University of Newcastle. The post is a full-time position and the holder will be responsible for the work of the Department of Humanities.

University of Newcastle
LECTURER IN LAW
Applications are invited for the post of Lecturer in Law at the University of Newcastle. The post is a full-time position and the holder will be responsible for the work of the Department of Law.

University of Newcastle
LECTURER IN ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING/URBAN PLANNING
Applications are invited for the post of Lecturer in Environmental Planning/Urban Planning at the University of Newcastle. The post is a full-time position and the holder will be responsible for the work of the Department of Environmental Planning/Urban Planning.

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SPORT

Tennis



Miss Wade (left) and Mrs King with the trophy after her victory yesterday.

Mrs King begins new chapter in a book that was ready for printing

By Rex Bellamy
Tennis Correspondent

The inaugural Bromar Cup tennis tournament, which serves as a vanguard for the planned European extension of the women's indoor circuit, was something of an anti-climax at Crystal Palace yesterday. The arena was almost packed to capacity, which indicated that the public had finally realised something special was happening. But the singles final, which had aroused great expectations, was a brief and mostly disappointing spectacle.

Billie Jean King took only 67 minutes to beat Virginia Wade, the Wimbledon champion, by 6-3, 6-1. Except for a flurry of concentrated energy that served as a vanguard for the planned European extension of the women's indoor circuit, was something of an anti-climax at Crystal Palace yesterday. The arena was almost packed to capacity, which indicated that the public had finally realised something special was happening. But the singles final, which had aroused great expectations, was a brief and mostly disappointing spectacle.

By contrast Mrs King spent much of the year convalescing and rebuilding her muscular strength after the latest in a series of operations that make one wonder how much surgical excavation one woman's knees can stand. She has been beaten only once in her last 30 singles matches, and has confessed that every time she does on court she feels she is playing on borrowed time—that every day's tennis is a bonus. As never before, she has been appreciating the simple joy of running. She said yesterday: "It's the greatest thrill for me when someone gives me a drop shot and I can get to it."

Golf

The buoyant Pollard plots his course to Waterville in style

From Dudley Doust
Manila, Dec 11

Spain retained the World Cup at the Wack Wack Golf and Country Club here today, but only after many anxious moments through the final round. The champions, Severiano Ballesteros and Amador Garrido, on edge for their three-stroke overnight lead to the Canadians through the turn and then, late in the day, fought off a flurry from their playing partners, Japan, finally to coast home three strokes clear of the Philippines.

The individual award went to Gary Player, whose final round of 76 left him on 289, a stroke over par on the course made treacherous by the treacle-slow greens. The greens alone, by common agreement, were the cause of the highest scores in the quarter-finals of the competition. Spain's triumph score of 391, for instance, was 15 strokes over par and poor. Marko Vorko, the Yugoslav, who had been a favourite, finished with a four-round total of 392, four strokes over par. The 104 strokes over par was the highest score in the tournament.

Hockey

Southgate pay penalty in trial by ordeal

Southgate, champions of Europe, were locked out of the national club hockey tournament by Guildford yesterday. Guildford won 3-1 on penalty strokes, and qualified for the first round of the tournament. The match was a trial by ordeal for Southgate, who were fined £1,000 for breaching the rules of the tournament. The match was a trial by ordeal for Southgate, who were fined £1,000 for breaching the rules of the tournament.

Badminton

Talbot is one degree too much for Wilks

By Richard Streeton

The gap which exists in English badminton between the leading players and the rest was heavily underlined at the National Championships in Coventry yesterday. Talbot (Northumberland), who had to struggle with a heavy cold, and Gillian Gilks (Surrey) won the individual titles and the outcome in both cases was always certain which inevitably made for a lack of tension.

Talbot beat the uncapped Kent player, Michael Wilks, 15-7, 15-4 in 25 minutes to win the men's title for a record fourth time. Mrs Gilks, ruthlessly efficient, needed only 11 minutes to complete her 11-0, 11-6 victory against Nora Perry (Essex). It was Mrs Gilks' fifth national singles title which equalled Margaret Lockwood's record.

start to finish. Mrs Perry could do little against a flow of powerful hits from the base-line which first netted her by a shot of position until Mrs Gilks was ready to use her disguised drop shot. The first game lasted only three minutes 40 seconds by one watch and Mrs Gilks lost only three services. It was the victory of a perfectionist with nobody more annoyed one expected, as any errors that Mrs Gilks herself.

Final team and individual totals

Team totals	Individual totals
Spain 391, Ballesteros 75, 77, 79, 78, 76, 75, 74, 73, 72, 71, 70, 69, 68, 67, 66, 65, 64, 63, 62, 61, 60, 59, 58, 57, 56, 55, 54, 53, 52, 51, 50, 49, 48, 47, 46, 45, 44, 43, 42, 41, 40, 39, 38, 37, 36, 35, 34, 33, 32, 31, 30, 29, 28, 27, 26, 25, 24, 23, 22, 21, 20, 19, 18, 17, 16, 15, 14, 13, 12, 11, 10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1	602, Ballesteros 75, 77, 79, 78, 76, 75, 74, 73, 72, 71, 70, 69, 68, 67, 66, 65, 64, 63, 62, 61, 60, 59, 58, 57, 56, 55, 54, 53, 52, 51, 50, 49, 48, 47, 46, 45, 44, 43, 42, 41, 40, 39, 38, 37, 36, 35, 34, 33, 32, 31, 30, 29, 28, 27, 26, 25, 24, 23, 22, 21, 20, 19, 18, 17, 16, 15, 14, 13, 12, 11, 10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1

Appointments Vacant

SENIOR SUPERANNUATION OFFICER REQUIRED
BY NALGO ON SALARY SCALE RANGING BETWEEN £7,012-£7,484 P.A., INCLUSIVE OF LONDON ALLOWANCE AND SUPPLEMENTS

The work is highly confidential and calls for a person having an in-depth and detailed knowledge of a major superannuation scheme related to either the public service or private sector in industry. The successful candidate will be required to have a high level of accuracy, attention to detail, and a strong sense of responsibility.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND FORMS OF APPLICATION FROM THE NALGO OFFICE, 11, BEDFORD SQUARE, LONDON, WC1R 4EJ. Closing date for receipt of completed forms: 31st December, 1977.

EUROBOND DEALER
Excellent negotiable salary

Applications in writing to:
Dai-ichi Kangyo Paribas Ltd.
1-3 College Hill
London EC4.

GENERAL VACANCIES

STOCKBROKING TRAINEE
Major UK stockbroker after 18 months' experience in financial analysis, including a year in the City. The successful candidate will be required to have a high level of accuracy, attention to detail, and a strong sense of responsibility.

CAREER OPENING IN ACCOUNTS £4,000+
Opportunity for an enthusiastic and motivated individual to join a leading company in the financial services sector. The successful candidate will be required to have a high level of accuracy, attention to detail, and a strong sense of responsibility.

LEADING INTERNATIONAL RESTORER'S WORKSHOP KINGSTON
Requires experienced ceramic restorer. Salary around £5,000 per annum. Applications in writing to: The Workshop, Kingston, Surrey.

IF YOU ARE LOOKING FOR WORK with a difference, have a look at our new range of jobs. We are looking for someone to join our team of professionals. The successful candidate will be required to have a high level of accuracy, attention to detail, and a strong sense of responsibility.

THE ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW is a leading authority on architecture. We are looking for a talented and motivated individual to join our team. The successful candidate will be required to have a high level of accuracy, attention to detail, and a strong sense of responsibility.

MANAGERIAL POSITIONS
We are looking for experienced managers to join our team. The successful candidate will be required to have a high level of accuracy, attention to detail, and a strong sense of responsibility.

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE
We are looking for a talented and motivated individual to join our team. The successful candidate will be required to have a high level of accuracy, attention to detail, and a strong sense of responsibility.

FINANCE & ACCOUNTANCY
We are looking for experienced professionals to join our team. The successful candidate will be required to have a high level of accuracy, attention to detail, and a strong sense of responsibility.

ITINERANT AUDITOR £4,500
We are looking for a talented and motivated individual to join our team. The successful candidate will be required to have a high level of accuracy, attention to detail, and a strong sense of responsibility.

NATIONAL ELECTRIC POWER AUTHORITY Vacancies

The National Electric Power Authority, a Nigerian Public Utility responsible for generation, transmission and distribution of electricity to all parts of the country, requires protection, control and metering instructors for its Training Centre at Kajini in Nigeria.

Applicants should possess a good University degree in Electrical/Electronic Engineering or an equivalent professional qualification, and must have registered or be registrable with a recognised Professional Engineering Association such as the Council of Registered Engineers of Nigeria (COREN). In addition, he must have acquired a minimum of three years' post qualification experience in the Protection, Control and Metering Field in a power utility, a major Manufacturing Company or similar concern.

Applicants holding the Higher Diploma/Certificate in Electrical/Electronic Engineering with a minimum of five years' post qualification experience in protection, control and metering will also be considered.

Those with lesser experience may be considered for appointment as Assistant Instructors.

The successful applicants will be responsible for developing courses, writing instructions on new and existing equipment, and actually instructing both in the classroom and laboratory. They will also be expected to work in the field with support groups from time to time.

Attractive salaries commensurate with qualifications and experience as well as generous fringe benefits will be offered to the right candidates.

Interested person should forward his curriculum vitae (in duplicate) containing his full names, age, marital status, nationality, qualifications indicating dates obtained, specialised training if any, work experience showing periods, present appointment with date of entry, and other useful pieces of information to:

THE DIRECTOR OF PERSONNEL, NATIONAL ELECTRIC POWER AUTHORITY HEADQUARTERS, 24/25 MARINA, LAGOS, NIGERIA,
to reach him no later than Friday, 23rd December, 1977.

Copies of relevant certificates must be attached.

Sales Executive
required for well-established wharfage company on the Thames to assist Sales Director in obtaining new business. Must have forward-looking, shipping and ship-broking experience, also personality to negotiate with customers at all levels. Occasional foreign travel involved. Preferable age group 28-35. Good salary will be paid plus company car and other benefits.

Applications in writing please to:
THE SALES DIRECTOR, SAMUEL WILLIAMS, (DAGENHAM DOCKS) LTD., CHEQUERS LANE, DAGENHAM, ESSEX.

Group Financial Comptroller
A substantial international diversified trading and shipping Group requires a progressive and energetic person of wide experience and mature outlook to assume responsibility as Group Financial Comptroller.

It is anticipated that the successful candidate will be aged between 30 and 45 years and possess a recognised professional qualification.

The salary offered will depend upon age and experience but will be substantial in view of the responsibilities involved.

Applications should be made in writing with particulars of curriculum vitae in the first instance to:

Edward McGuire, St Paul's House, Warwick Lane, London EC4P 4BN.

SALES AND MARKETING

SALESMAN/GENERAL MANAGER
A private group with £12 million turnover has a vacancy for a Salesman/General Manager. The successful candidate will be required to have a high level of accuracy, attention to detail, and a strong sense of responsibility.

EDUCATIONAL

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD
WOLFFENDEN AND MALLORY COLLEGES
FELLOWSHIP AND LECTURESHIP IN LAW
Wolffenden College, Oxford, proposes to elect an Officer of the University to hold a Fellowship and a Lectureship in Law. The successful candidate will be required to have a high level of accuracy, attention to detail, and a strong sense of responsibility.

EDUCATIONAL

D.C.E. DEGREE
The Department of Continuing Education, University of London, is offering a D.C.E. degree in Education. The successful candidate will be required to have a high level of accuracy, attention to detail, and a strong sense of responsibility.

DOMESTIC AND CATERING SITUATIONS

ROLFS-ROYCE-TRAINED CHAUFFEUR/CHAUFFEUSE
required for senior partner in Dutch area. Basic salary £3,500 with overtime and some week-end working. Must have own transport. Christmas bonus.

CORDON BLEU COOK
required for Christmas Day. To work Christmas Eve for party of 10. Must be a Cordon Bleu cook. Salary £1,000. Applications in writing to: Cordon Bleu, London.

SAUDI ARABIA
Experienced Nanny to care for 2 girls in V.P. family. Salary £1,000 per month. Applications in writing to: Saudi Arabia, London.

DOMESTIC AND CATERING SITUATIONS

COOK
A COOK is required for a residence in London. The successful candidate will be required to have a high level of accuracy, attention to detail, and a strong sense of responsibility.

SALESMAN/GENERAL MANAGER
A private group with £12 million turnover has a vacancy for a Salesman/General Manager. The successful candidate will be required to have a high level of accuracy, attention to detail, and a strong sense of responsibility.

For your next move...

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For details or to book your advertisement, ring 01-278 9161 or Manchester 061-834 1234

LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
In the matter of the estate of the late Mr. John Smith, deceased. Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late Mr. John Smith, deceased, is being administered by the executor named in the will. The executor is Mr. John Smith, of the firm of Messrs. Smith & Co., Solicitors, of 1, Abchurch Lane, London EC4N 3DF.

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1947
In the matter of the Companies Act 1947, and in the matter of the Companies (Winding Up) Regulations 1947, notice is hereby given that the Companies Commission for England has received an application for the winding up of the company named in the schedule to this notice. The company is named in the schedule to this notice.

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J&B Rare Scotch Whisky.



So Mr Malcolm Fraser was right after all. He has comfortable

David Wood

From an empty Commons—bingo a Full House

The behaviour of the Commons on the two Bills will be utterly different, though the motives will be identical. We stand within a twelvemonth of a general election, and therefore party leaders and rank and file are preoccupied with the tactics of power. Scottish devo-

Opposition leader, went to the Scottish Conservative conference in Perth during May, 1968, he found party morale desperately low, and he accepted the hypothesis that a Conservative recovery in Scotland would be helped by a sham tartan electoral cry.

Undoubtedly Mrs Thatcher's position has been weakening. Today between 60 and 80 Conservative MPs, not all back benchers, associate themselves in varying degrees with the general cause of PR, on

the argument that the anti-socialist vote must be maximized for long-term reasons, even if there are short-term disadvantages to the Conservative Party. Industry and the City have increasingly hinted that they would find it easier to subscribe to a party committed to PR and a broader anti-socialism, although this factor is commonly exaggerated.

nobody doubts that the European choice then will be some form of P.R. So tomorrow's Commons division, on a long view, is irrelevant in all except terms of party power. But, at any rate, if it is any satisfaction, there will be a crowded House for it.

From the President of the Publication Council Board

Like the Chief Constable I am glad that the law relating to obscenity is now under scrutiny. If he is right in implying that the present law "puts upon the police the responsibility of exercising a wholly subjective judgment on aspects of human behaviour and attitude . . ." the sooner it is changed the better.

Taxis at Heathrow

Very clearly they think they have a grievance and people with grievances normally end up by losing both respect for the law and for people in general. It is obvious that the whole system needs a radical review.

Yours sincerely,
JASPER PARROTT,
22 Hilgate Street, W8.

the general point does seem to me
the fundamental lesson of the
Grunwick dispute.
Yours faithfully,
JOE ROGALY.
Cracken House,
Cannon Street, EC4.
December 9.

From Mr Tim Miller
Sir, From Humphry Berkeley's
letter, and (December 18) your

Labour Party.
Yours faithfully,
TIM MILLER.
Prospective Conservative Parliamentary Candidate, Hackney North and Stoke Newington,
74 Lissenden Mansions,
Lissenden Gardens, NW5.
December 10.

Camden costs
From the Leader of Camden Council
Sir, In order to make a point

Camden costs

Space will not allow me to refute every single inaccuracy. Let me suffice with a few points as examples. The Alexandra Road scheme has not "so far soaked up" £183m. The comparison of original costs and final estimate is totally false. The final estimate covers three different contracts, the original only one. The average total cost of the housing is high but not excessively so. And so on.

Mr Levin's second example con-

Steve Riko's quest

"Thus after years of silence we are able to hear the familiar voice of Alan Paton saying as far away as London, 'Perhaps Apartheid is worth a try.'"

I have never said such a thing. The Liberal Party of South Africa was founded in 1953 to oppose Apartheid and more than half its members were black. When it was made illegal in 1968 for any person of one racial group to associate politically with any person of another group, the Party chose to

disband itself rather than break into separate parties. During those 15 years I was first Chairman and later President of the Liberal Party. Apartheid is to me a denial of all that the Party stood for, and it would be impossible for me to make such a statement.

It was in Edinburgh, not London. In 1971 that I said that the policy of Separate Development should be exploited for whatever advantage

Imprisoned in Cuba

could anyone commit which would deserve such inhumane treatment? Yet not only is there little chance of Major Matos being free before his sentence is up but there is a serious doubt whether he will be freed even when he has fulfilled his 20 years. Cuba is busy trying to

From Professor Edward Stamp

One of the worrying features of the situation is the extraordinary complacency displayed by the Chairmen of the Public Accounts Committee. Mr Edward du Cann, He has given the most unimpassioned and unimpassioned endorsement of the five cheques and the Audit Department on several occasions, most recently in the debate in the House of Commons last week when he exclaimed that "the whole House has total confidence in the Bankers and the Audit Department's ability to audit department". I think this very badly overstates the case. It is bad enough having civil servants checking, but not, or cannot, or barely, to infinity, by a Committee of a Public Accounts Committee Chairman whose chief distinction seems to be his ability to wag his tail. Yours faithfully,
EDWARD STAMP,

Economic evidence

From Mr William Waldegrave
Sir, Mr David Lea, of the Treasury
Economic Department, said in his
oral evidence to the Wilson Com-
mittee: "I do not think we can
say it is a black or white situation
but in the 1980s what we are
emphasizing is that we are in a
whole new ball game when we hope
we will have a growth scenario where
we believe that profitability in the
secular as well as in a cyclical sense
will be important." (Wilson Com-
mittee Evidence, Vol 2, HMSO
p 93).

Mr Lea is, I believe, Mr Lea Murray's key adviser on economic and industrial matters at a time when the TUC is expanding its ambitions towards an ever greater role in economic policy. Some even say that there is a chance that he may have been Mr Murray's successor.

I have a sentence quoted above a good many times. I don't get any nearer to understanding it. It is not untypical of Mr Lea's style. His snappish others will find it better than I am extracting meaning from it. But surely it must be a matter of some concern that he should be so successful as Mr Murray and his TUC colleagues draw ideas from thinking which appears as incoherent as this?

William Wedgwood
Bristol West Conservative
Association,
5 Westfield Park,
Redland,
November 29.

'Poetry for Pleasure'

From Mr Ian Parsons
Sir, In your notice of my anthology
Poetry For Pleasure your reviewer
rebuked me for printing a version
of "As Ye Came from the Holy
Land" which differed appreciably
from "the text established by
Raleigh's best editor (Ames-
Latham)" and for "adding insult to
injury but subscribing it" doubtfully
attributed to Sir Walter Raleigh".
But my authority for doing so is not
less eminent a scholar than Pro-
fessor Dame Helen Gardner who has
discussed the

described the poem as "only doubtfully Raleigh's". Moreover both and Agnes Latham remark that it is a reworking of an earlier popular ballad. This reworking may, or may not, have been done by Raleigh. Agnes Latham herself admits that the few poems of Raleigh's we possess are "of dubious authenticity and uncertain date".

printed followed the
Oxford Book, and I think

passionate reader would agree that, so far as most of the discrepancies between Q's text and the Bodleian text (which Agnes Latham was morally bound to print, since it was her sole authority for the attribution to Raleigh) are concerned, the latter is markedly inferior and indeed plainly corrupt. So that it was a little uncharitable of your reviewer to blame me for not printing it and giving it unequivocally to Raleigh.

Yours faithfully,
IAN PARSONS.
 Tuggs Corner,
 Kingston,
 Lewes,
 Sussex.
 December 9

Eating in Britain
From Dr Simon Behrman
Sir, Your "innocent abroad" might

be informed that over-eating in British boardrooms has a fiscal cause and is not a symptom of manic-depressive psychosis.
Yours truly,
SIMON BEHRMAN,
83 Harley Street, W1
December 9

Times Interview

M Jacques Chirac

'The Bulldozer' is still on the move

Since M Jacques Chirac was elected nine months ago to be the first Mayor of Paris in a century and a half, he has assumed with his characteristic drive and energy responsibility for the life and well being of the 3,000,000 inhabitants of the capital. This is in addition to his other already numerous and time-consuming activities of president of the reorganized Gaullist movement, the Rassemblement du Peuple Français, deputy for his constituency of Corréze in central France, and of the departmental assembly.

More than ever he lives up to the nickname of "The Bulldozer" which he had earned as young minister of President Pompidou, carrying on business "at the gallop" (a favourite expression of his), sparing neither himself nor his vast team of experts and advisors both at the Paris Town Hall and at the headquarters of the Rassemblement in the rue de Lille. He still finds time to visit his constituency once a fortnight on average, and to keep in close touch with local problems.

He works in the morning at party headquarters, and in the afternoon and evening at the Hôtel de Ville. But he is no deskbound mayor. Always on the go, visiting schools, markets, building sites, receiving delegations, and dignitaries, pensioners and parliamentarians, planting trees and presiding with an iron hand over the debates of the Paris Council, holding press conferences, addressing meetings, welcoming the winner of the Tour de

France, or Mr Breznev, supervising and controlling everything, and insuring that Paris and himself are always in the centre of the political stage. In the past six weeks, he has even found time to visit 22 departments, where his rhythm of activity is as intensive as in Paris. And he intends to have covered all 90 before the March elections.

When I called on him in his huge corner study on the first floor of the Hôtel de Ville, big enough to contain 80 people comfortably without moving the furniture, and acknowledged to be the finest office in Paris, he was just about to go off to some ceremony and had just received a string of visitors the whole afternoon. M Chirac is a man who is always in a hurry, but never flustered, quite certain of what he is doing and where he is going. In his few months of tenure as mayor, he has shaken up the whole administration of Paris and its 30,000 officials. They have all felt the touch not of a new broom but of the new whirlwind. By comparison, the government of the country seems almost lethargic in its bureaucratic ponderousness.

M Chirac is always decisive and even incisive. His aim is to insure that the Gaullists and himself are as indispensable to the government of the country in the future as they have been since 1974, when he put M Giscard d'Estaing in power; and to retain the initiative of political action. He did so again last week by announcing his request to be received by the President, in order to convey his concern at the stagnation of the govern-

ment majority's appeal with the voters, in spite of the split between Socialists and Communists two months ago.

Doubts do not shake him. He counters the talk of the town about the soul-searching and difficulties of the Gaullists, and their alleged loss of public confidence in himself and his party. He dismisses opinion polls with a wave of the hand. "Had I believed in them, I would never have become Mayor of Paris," he told me. His sights are set far and high. Paris is only a stage, if a key one, on his road to the political summit—in other words, to the Presidency.

The Gaullists... a genuine popular party

It is a year since he turned the UDR into the RPR, to give it a new and more attractive image, and attempt to win back a part at least of those popular votes which General de Gaulle had wrested from the left. He feels he has won his gamble. "Only the verdict of the polls will tell," he said. "But I think we have two reasons for believing we have been successful: we have two and a half times as many members as a year ago; and the motivations of

those who have joined us show that three quarters of them come from the opposition, generally from Socialist supporters."

Some of his opponents, I remarked, had tried to pin a right-wing image on him and on the Gaullists. What was their motive? "The reason is simple. Many people want to limit our action, and therefore caricature our aims—some in the opposition because they appreciate we are the greatest obstacle to its expansion, and some in the government majority because they hoped two or three years ago that the Gaullist party would disappear and rejoiced prematurely. They still try to give a false image of us, and to check our growth. He is convinced that the Gaullists have a genuine vocation as a popular party, and are better placed than any other of the government majority to draw away support from the left. In fact, he rejects the distinctions between left and right. For him, there are the "social-communists", or the "collectivists" as he calls them, and the others. "We are very open to voters from all quarters, who are prepared to accept that our society tomorrow should be constructed on the principles of freedom and responsibility, and who are ready to bring us their own commitment, their sensitivity, their generosity, if that is what one calls the left. And we are ready to further their hopes."

Had Gaullism died with General de Gaulle, and become a party like any other as it was often suggested? "Gaullism was not born with General de

Gaulle, and did not die with him. It exists whenever, in crucial periods of French history, there are men who say 'No'. Therefore it did not die with him. I have always said that we are not the spiritual heirs of General de Gaulle. The whole French people are. We are his faithful disciples. Believe you me, that is a tough enough job in itself," he replied.

Turning to the March elections, I asked him why he was convinced that the government parties had everything to gain by going into battle under their own separate banners, and having "primaries" between them, rather than putting up a single candidate as they did in the past. His answer was crystal clear. Either one had a situation where the President of the Republic committed himself fully and put forward his candidates, who would become his majority after the elections, as was the case under General de Gaulle and President Pompidou. "This restricts the role of political parties. But it also means the President of the Republic must draw all the necessary conclusions from a defeat of his majority at the polls, if it should come about." In other words, though M Chirac did not say so explicitly, he might be compelled to resign and stand again for election, for the Gaullist electoral platform, "Proposals for France", that the latest expression of the voters' will has it on the one that preceded it.

Or one had a system in which the President did not wish to commit himself fully, and left the parties, within the framework of political pluralism, the possibility of putting forward their own proposals. But in a two-ballot system like the French, led to "primaries" between the candidates of the different government parties. It also reinforced the role of political parties. But in a majority which is diverse, it is a necessity if one wants to poll the greatest number of votes. If one cannot plough deep, one must rake wide. Remember, I have been Minister of Agriculture," he quipped.

"The Gaullist leader considers that the left divided is as dangerous to the government majority as it was united. "God knows whether it will come together again. A patch-up is always possible, especially on a purely electoral plane." Recent local by-elections, notably at Strasbourg, had shown that the switch of votes from Socialists to Communists, and vice versa, in the second ballot was unimpaired by the breach. This did not affect the strategy of the majority parties. "We are told that the political landscape has changed. I have always replied to this that there is no more cause for a sudden burst of optimism now than there was for pessimism some months ago. The Communists and Socialists are as threatening today as they were in 1974. In any case, I observe that no one any longer imagines a change in electoral strategy to meet their division."

Of course, the split on the left had tempted the government parties to consider the possibility of shifts of power within the government majority, to the Gaullists' detriment. This temptation was always present, he insisted. But a shift of power could not be devised by party caucuses, however expert. It was a matter for the voters to decide. "Let us wait till they have their say," he added. Did these temptations worry him? "I am not someone who is easily worried," he replied firmly.

There was also a risk that as a result of the split, the supporters of the majority parties might be inclined to feel that the threat from the left had receded. "There is a risk if one does not compensate for the demobilising effect of the split on the left by energetic action, especially since—though this is no longer the case today—it was presented at one time as holding out extraordinary hopes of victory at the polls," M Chirac remarked.

As far as his party was concerned, he had set up a programme to visit all the departments of France, with "all that this implies in the way of meetings of every kind, and of personal contacts". He explains his policy and programme to the Gaullist militants, warns them against the blows of the opposition, encourages the militants, usually over an informal meal. He discusses local problems with local dignitaries of all parties who are willing to meet him, and pays particular attention to the local press. And he devotes a great deal of time and effort to meeting the people in the street, shaking hands, exchanging a few words, and kissing babies, according to the

well tried techniques of the traditional parish pump politician, which have stood him in good stead in his own constituency of Corréze, ever since 1967, when President Pompidou sent him out on what was regarded as the almost "suicide mission" of wresting the seat from the Socialists.

M Chirac's constant preoccupation is to assert the separate identity of the Gaullist movement without weakening the unity of the government majority, and laying himself open to the charge of being its "diver". As he did over the Government's capital gains tax proposals, and direct elections to the European Parliament earlier this year. That is why he has emphasized more than once in recent weeks that he opposed any suggestions that the Prime Minister should bring the Gaullists into line with the other government parties behind a sort of common programme of the Government, euphemistically described as the Government's "objectives of action" or to give a kind of seal of approval to the candidates of the majority, as this would indirectly create an artificial distinction between the "good" and the "bad" ones.

"The Prime Minister leads the Government and he already has a good deal of trouble doing so, for things are not going as well and as fast as he wishes, to say the least. On the other hand, everything he can do to mobilize the majority will naturally be welcome. As for the 'objectives of action', I am very reserved about the formulation of a programme with all the risk of demagoguery this implies on the eve of an election, and the threat to a majority which is united and coherent, and could see it as an attempt to split it, between those who accept it and those who do not."

The right to criticize the Government...

The Gaullist leader considered that the general policy principles enshrined in the manifesto of the majority, solemnly endorsed by all government parties last September, provided an adequate overall framework for their separate electoral campaigns. "If one has more precise programme, one gets into the situation where one has to bring it up to date—and you see where this can lead," he exclaimed, in a reference to the disastrous attempts of the Union of the Left last September to agree on a revised text of its common programme. In recent weeks, M Chirac has insisted that his intention was not to oppose the head of state, but he claims for his party "the right and the duty, in a parliamentary democracy, to express criticism of the Government as and when it felt this was justified. His position is comparable to M Giscard d'Estaing's own in 1966, when he was out of office and took up within the government majority dominated by the Gaullists a position of constructive criticism summed up by what he called the policy of the "yes but".

When I asked him why, on the Barre Government's economic policy, he had marked his distance, he replied that he had had reservations about it from the start. "I felt we ought to support it because we were assured that at the end of the year fundamental economic equilibria would be restored. This has unfortunately not been the case, and has led me to formulate these reservations more precisely," he added.

He put it in colourful terms: "France is ill," he said. "She does not recover. So whatever the friendship and esteem we have for the physician, we are compelled to admit that the medicine used has not borne the fruits expected of it. We shall therefore propose another, that is to say a policy of reflection and of effort."

The Gaullist movement will

bring out its own economic proposals in January, but already in the "Propositions for France" the emphasis is laid on reflection in depth, "to emerge from stagnation and eliminate unemployment", which is described as "morally and socially intolerable"; on the "obligation of growth"; and on the rehabilitation of the national development plan, "which has lost its pre-eminent place in economic policy, and alone can stimulate investment in the direction of the transformations to be achieved."

M Chirac said: "The impact of economic policy on elections is slight when the situation is good, but when, as in all industrial countries, there is a high rate of inflation and unemployment, it is an important element of the voters' choice. And it becomes a decisive one when, as at present, there is a fifty-fifty electoral situation between the government and opposition."

More than once in the past 12 months, since M Chirac left the premiership, the Gaullist movement has been alarmed about the drift of foreign and, especially, defence policy, away from the fundamental Gaullist principles of national independence, and the defence of the franc. The debate on the defence estimates in November when several of its old guard voiced misgivings about the alleged shift in priority from nuclear deterrent to conventional forces.

M Chirac stressed that the nuclear capacity of France was an essential part of her national defence. "This capacity is itself based on the determination to use it in an emergency, and on its quality, therefore on its constant modernization and improvement." The RPR consequently felt it was essential that a sixth nuclear submarine (originally programmed but practically shelved in the past two years' defence estimates) should be built, and others after it. Its doubts about the Government's defence objectives had largely been set aside by the Prime Minister's assurances. "But we shall remain vigilant," he declared.

He was not prepared, in reply to a question of mine, to endorse the view sometimes heard in government circles in Britain that there were many points in common between the British and the Gaullist approach to Europe. "I would not allow myself to pass judgment on British policy, but it is not a view that would come to my mind," he said with a smile.

Britain's European policy, as I see it, is based on the desire to preserve her privileges, notably material, undiminished within the Community. That is the meaning of her action on the Common Agricultural Policy. It is not particularly Gaullist. He discerned much more of a Gaullist temperament in Mr Edward Heath's approach to Europe. This had been the basis of the esteem and friendship which had existed between him and President Pompidou. The fact that the British Government, along with the Gaullists, rejected the European federal structure did not in itself make for a parallel approach towards European problems.

He was raring to go, and I just managed to slip in a last question about the Manichean French approach to politics, the division of France into two blocks, which President Giscard d'Estaing and many political leaders of non-Gaullist parties continue to deplore. "What democratic country is not divided into two blocks at election time?" he exclaimed. "I am fed up with all the talk about it. What country is not divided into blocks? If not Britain divided into two blocks, is not Germany divided into two blocks? Is not the United States divided into two blocks? Each time these countries vote, one cannot tell which of the two blocks will win. It is a direct consequence of democracy. Only in totalitarian countries is there a single block. It is the approach here in France, tensions are more acute because one of the two blocks refers to principles which are different from the other," he added, with a final glint at the left.

Charles Hargrove
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Capitalization and week's change

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Treasury rejects MPs' advice on two aspects of Bank's affairs

By Christopher Wilkins

Two of the main recommendations of a House of Commons Select Committee report on the Bank of England published just a year ago, are effectively to be rejected.

The MPs' report suggested that the separate economic forecasting functions of the Bank and the Treasury should be merged. It also criticised the level of the Bank's staff fringe benefits, arguing that they should be brought more into line with the changes the public generally has to bear.

A Treasury minute is to be published, probably early in the new year, on the first of these issues and is expected to reject the report's argument for merging the two forecasting units.

The existence of separate economic models was justified on the grounds that it threw up points of argument about the divergence of opinion. But the committee said it was not altogether reassuring that the Treasury had the advantage from double guessing at the present imponderables.

The report said: "We would have thought that sufficient independent research was being undertaken to produce results on which the Treasury and Bank economists could sharpen their wits without duplicating staff and resources. We suggest this is an area in which future economies might be taught by seeking to operate only one Treasury/Bank model."

On the second main recommendation, relating to fringe

benefits, it also seems unlikely that any significant changes will be made. The report itemised a number of areas that needed to be looked at, including home loans at 7 or 25 per cent, 20-year loans at 3 per cent to pay for private education, interest-free loans for season ticket holders, personal loans at 3 per cent and a non-contributory pension scheme.

A joint working party between the Bank of England, Staff Organisation, the negotiating body for Bank staff, and management has already investigated the question of education loans, and although minor modifications have been introduced, it has not substantially affected benefits available to staff.

Another working party has now begun looking at housing loans, but the staff organisation is refusing to consider an overall reduction in benefits, and the Bank appears to accept its arguments that they are part of total remuneration. It has been pointed out that the Bank is broadly in line with those offered by banks elsewhere in the City.

Other recommendations in the select committee report, which was not in general critical of the Bank's functioning, included one that its capital should not be allowed to fall short of the standards applied to other banks. In this regard, the suggestion the capital was boosted from £12m to £18m, mainly as the result of a property revaluation.

On the second main recommendation, relating to fringe

Lombard auditors are cleared of impropriety

By Ray Maughan

Both the finance director and joint-auditors of Lombard have been cleared of any professional impropriety following a study of the findings of the Department of Trade investigation into the company.

The study carried out by the Professional Standards Committee of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales and headed by the former director general of the Takeover Panel, Mr. Martin Harris, also found no evidence of any disagreement between the joint auditors that could have contributed to any lack of effectiveness in either their or the board's dealing with the question of an expenses claim.

The ICA also observed that the inspectors' criticisms of the joint auditors were "confined to a very limited area of their considerable responsibilities and that the auditors had acted in a very proper manner."

The criticism centred on the treatment of a retrospective claim for £307,421 involving reimbursement of expenses incurred by Mr. Roland "Tiny" Rowland, chief executive of Lombard, who was criticised by the inspectors for failing to disclose the claim, while the DoT also criticised the joint auditors, Mr. Basil West, the finance director, was criticised by the inspectors for failing to disclose the claim, while the DoT also criticised the joint auditors, Mr. Basil West, the finance director, was criticised by the inspectors for failing to disclose the claim.

At its meeting on February 13, 1977, the board, which included Mr. West as a professionally-qualified accountant, was advised that funds advanced to him, thereby contravening the provisions of the Companies Act 1948.

This left Lombard with only six days to prepare and verify the expenses claim before the date set for approval of the accounts for the year ended September 30, 1974. As it was, the accounts contained no note to indicate that the claim had been hastily verified and might require some retrospective correction.

Although the deadline was met, the claim contained a fundamental error in that it included interest allowed to Mr. Rowland upon a personal loan, which was not a company-owned property.

The committee accepted that the inspectors were able to gain access to information which revealed the nature of the claim, and believed that given more than six days, Mr. West would have obtained this information.

The ICA stressed, however, that certain non-executive directors should have been given an opportunity by Mr. West to see and approve the claim before publication of the accounts.

Mr. West, the committee decided, should also have sought precise terms covering what he could undertake and what must remain the responsibility of others.

But the time factor was mitigated, against, that course and after careful consideration the committee did not accept the degree of criticism the inspectors made of Mr. West. Mr. Harris and his colleagues also pointed out that a full presentation of the correct claim was incorporated in the accounts for the following year.

Bankers might opt for medium-term policies to stabilize US currency Currency problem on Basle agenda

By Peter Norman

The dollar's sharp decline and its implications for the world economy and currency markets have been among the major topics discussed today and tomorrow by Western central bankers in Basle.

As the central banks taking part have widely different powers, it would probably be wrong to expect a rapid concerted reaction to the latest bout of dollar weakness.

The West German federal bank, for example, is largely independent of Bonn, while the Bank of England is generally subservient to the Treasury. The question mark hangs over the effectiveness of the United States Federal Reserve System, which Dr. Arthur Burns, the chairman, has been cast in a "lame duck" role through the Carter Administration's reluctance to confirm him in office for another term after his contract expires in the spring.

Other factors suggest caution in weighing the possible outcome of the meeting. The past week there has been a lot of establishing the swap arrangements between the Fed and other central banks that would allow the American authorities to intervene in support of the dollar and foreign exchange markets. But swaps already exist and have not been fully used by the Fed.

German reaction to the dollar's fall probably gives a clue to future monetary developments. Dr. Oskar Emminger, president of the West German federal bank,

gave a speech in Bonn on Thursday in which he stressed that the dollar was undervalued.

But he appeared resigned to Germany having to live with an overvalued Deutschmark for some time, and it appears as if the federal bank, at least, will adjust to the new situation next Thursday by cutting its Bank rate from 3.5 per cent to 3 per cent.

Some interest was the statement last Tuesday of Dr. Hans Apel, the West German Finance Minister. Dr. Apel issued his statement on the day that the Deutsche mark fell to its record trading low of 2.1550.

But in contrast to Dr. Fritz Leutwiler, the Swiss National Bank president, who the night before had publicly accused the United States of "sheer neglect" of the dollar, Dr. Apel went out of his way to stress the cooperation between the federal bank and the Fed in combating the dollar's fall.

It later emerged that both Dr. Emminger and Dr. Apel were at a meeting of finance ministers from Germany, France, Britain and the United States in Paris last week, and which was also attended by Dr. Burns. Their statements probably reflected the views of realists when it came to devising ways of lifting the value of the dollar.

The monetary sources have suggested that the bankers in Basle could well concentrate more on medium-term policies to stabilize the dollar—such as harmonizing interest rates and monetary aggregates—rather than trying to impress the markets

with a spectacular decision such as a new swap arrangement that in the circumstances would have little more than a psychological impact.

This view could well gain the upper hand if the bankers felt there was room for a technical recovery in the dollar exchange rate in the coming weeks.

The moderate recovery staged by the dollar towards the end of last week is unlikely to detract from the gravity of the discussions as foreign exchange markets remain extremely volatile.

Officially the talks in Basle fall within the framework of the routine monthly discussions between central bankers at the Bank for International Settlements.

But for Japan, Germany and Switzerland as well as the smaller countries linked with Germany in the European joint flow, the present situation of foreign exchange markets is anything but routine.

Over the past week, or so, the von Deutsche mark and Swiss franc have shot up in value to record heights against the dollar while the strength of the Deutsche mark has exerted a strain upon the European "snake," pushing the Dutch guilder, Belgian franc and Danish and Norwegian crowns down to their lower intervention points against the German currency.

The movements have been accompanied by extensive central bank intervention. Dollar purchases by the federal bank in Frankfurt last week were said to be on a larger scale than at any time since the floating of the Deutsche mark in 1973.

Mr Yeo's prescription for the ailing dollar

The aims of American economic policy remain unclear and there are widespread worries about the extent to which major industrial nations are willing to co-operate in re-ordinating their economic policies.

This confusion is reflected, for example, in the continuing pressure on the dollar in the exchange markets.

There is a danger that the confusion may persist and assume greater proportions if the next summit meeting of the leaders of the key industrial countries is perceived to be a failure, argues Mr. Edwin Yeo, the former Under-Secretary of the Treasury for Monetary Affairs, and now chairman of the Asset and Liability Committee of the First National Bank of Chicago.

In his first interview since leaving the Treasury earlier this year, Mr. Yeo highlights the confused state of affairs by noting that the United States is squeezing the profit margin of foreign corporations and retarding the growth of foreign economies by allowing the dollar to depreciate while calling upon foreign governments to adopt more expansionist policies.

Balance of payments adjustment he regards as necessary but it should be the result of deliberate policies and, today, "the real question is are we going to run the system or not?"

By running the system he does not mean increasing intervention by central banks to regulate exchange rates. Such an approach just did not work. He favoured much greater cooperation between the key industrial countries in the formulation of economic policies, leading to greater policy coordination.

Mr. Yeo refrains from blunt criticism of the Carter Administration, but everything he says reflects a disenchantment with its approach and a most thoughtful and probing explanation of the confusion that is so widespread.

He points out that the economy is expanding more rapidly than foreign economies, and together with the continuing lack of an energy policy, it is not at all surprising that the United States should be running a large payments deficit.

For the United States today there was no such thing as domestic economic policy, only international economic policy, as the American economy was too large and the dollar too important to the global economic system for any of its policies not to have international consequences.

The Administration would move to disperse many of the uncertainties about the course of its economic policy. This was a vital first step towards stabilizing the dollar and clearing away much of the confusion.

The Federal Reserve Board's independence has to be unequivocally affirmed... one of the most unfortunate developments of the year has been the sense that monetary policy has once again become a political issue.

Frank Vogel

Britain to seek another deferment of EEC exchange controls pledge

By David Blake

Economics Correspondent

Britain will probably apply this week to the European Economic Community for permission to postpone again most of the easing of exchange controls imposed by its treaty obligations.

Foreign Office talks have been going on for roughly a month between officials of the Treasury and the European Commission, but they are rapidly approaching the crucial phase which will determine whether the British position will have to seek a formal derogation from its pledge to scrap "many capital outflow controls on January 1."

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The Government argues that the apparent picture of payments success presented by the latest capital inflow figures is misleading because of the effects of hot money which could be matched by outflows of long-term capital if exchange controls were eased. It thus believes it has a case for demanding a further extension of the deadline, although the United Kingdom is already overdue in its application of the capital free movement of capital.

In terms of making a case to the European Commission its position is stronger on indirect or portfolio investment in such things as shares or real estate than on direct investment in factories and plant.

The Commission has traditionally been more concerned to ease the benefits of direct investment flows because they are tied so closely to jobs and the flow of goods.

In addition, it is much easier to restrict the benefits of liberalization to EEC countries than to try to impose the same kind of restrictions on portfolio investment. This is because some Community countries have the capacity to attract more investment of funds, so that money transferred to Frankfurt could

be moved anywhere in the world. On the other hand, money exported to build a specific factory is tied to the country for which approval is given.

Because of this, the Government is likely to try to make sure that any concessions it makes are restricted to the direct investment side.

Even here, however, it is likely to give little ground. One possibility would be to ease the "supercession" under which an investment abroad is supposed to benefit the balance of payments within 18 months. An extension to three years might be a possibility.

The only possibility of an easing on the indirect investment side might be to relax the 25 per cent "surrounding rule" under which anyone who has bought investment currency at the special high exchange rate paid for capital movements has to sell a quarter of the funds at the normal rate if they realize the investment.

Such a change would not significantly alter the outflow of capital, it is argued, but it is thought that the Prime Minister himself personally ruled out such a move in October.

BOC raises Airco stake

By Our Financial Staff

BOC International has reached agreement to lift its stake in Airco, the third largest producer of industrial gases in the United States, from 24 to 49 per cent at a cost of \$77.4m (about £43m).

Its initial objective was to acquire just over 50 per cent, but the Airco board insisted that the BOC will have the right, at any time within the next five years, to increase its stake to a ceiling of 55 per cent.

Financial Editor, page 21

Aerospace to fund own research

By Arthur Reed

British Aerospace, the new nationalized aircraft manufacturing industry, have been told by the Government that they must fund their own research and development of civil projects.

The Government policy is being contested by the state board and representatives are due to be made by them to the Department of Industry in the near future.

Their executives are preparing for a battle, not so much on the grounds of money but on the grounds of principle.

They will tell government ministers that the results of civil aerospace research—military research will continue to be funded by government—has "fallen" far beyond the aerospace industry.

If the Government do not fund civil aerospace research, British Aerospace will meet the bill themselves, but at a much lower level because of the comparatively smaller funds available to them. This could result in their finished products being less expensive than those of their competitors.

At the same time many of their most promising future designers and technicians will probably leave to work abroad.

The controversy was referred to during the weekend by Lord Beswick, chairman of British Aerospace, when he addressed a meeting of government scientists. He said that the concept of independent profitability should not be pushed by the Government to the point of penalizing the industry.

Three members of Opec ready to cut oil price

New York, Dec 11.—Regardless of the pricing decisions made by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries at their December 20 meeting in Caracas, three key African producers are ready to cut their oil prices.

Acknowledging that their crude oil is overpriced, Algeria already has informed customers it plans to cut its quality premium differential some 15-20c (8p to 11p) a barrel and Libya and Nigeria are considering similar moves, according to the magazine.

The three, concerned with sagging demand that has weakened demand for their light crude, also have been discussing a "production programme" to reduce output and supply surplus—AP-Dow Jones.

A changed world, page 21

European Court rebuffs plea by United Brands

By Derek Harris

Commercial Editor

A decision against reopening oral proceedings has been taken by the European Court of Justice in the appeal by United Brands, the multinational banana suppliers, against a controversial EEC Commission decision that the company abused its dominant market position.

No date has yet been decided for the court to give its verdict on the appeal, which could have major implications for other multinational companies operating within the Community.

The decision not to reopen the proceedings is itself likely to "spark off" controversy. United Brands asked for the reopening under article 61 of the court's rules of procedure.

It would have been an exceptional course for the court to take but it would have allowed both parties to make further representations to the court after what is normally the last act in its hearings, in which the Advocate General gives his opinion.

The Advocate General follows all aspects of the case, assessing the facts and legal issues, and his opinion is both advisory and a recommendation to the court.

If the court had decided to reopen oral proceedings it might have been seen as an indication of the weakness of the Advocate General's opinion. But many lawyers have seen it as a potential weakness of the court's procedure that parties in a case do not have the opportunity to comment on points raised.

If the court's judgment goes against the company there is still a procedure under which it could seek clarification of the judgment.

Unions list demands for Carter support

From Our United States Economics Correspondent

Los Angeles, Dec 11.—America's trade unions are angry. They feel the Carter Administration, which they helped to elect, has let them down and failed to fulfil all the promises that were made in last year's election campaign.

The AFL-CIO organization, under the continuing leadership of Mr. George Meany, who is 83, has agreed upon a long shopping list of measures.

They also demand that the Administration supports them, giving warning that it will suffer election defeats next year unless it meets the unions' demands.

Resolutions passed here or likely to be passed in the next couple of days of the AFL-CIO conference, commit the unions to press for a huge public works programme.

They want government aid to the housing industry, an urban renewal programme, reform of the labor laws, and much bigger monetary policies, together with the dismissal of Dr. Arthur Burns as chairman of the Federal Reserve.

The conference is due to pass a strongly worded protest resolution tomorrow, which calls for import quotas, higher tariffs, and "cuts on United States private investment abroad."

On other pages

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20
23
20
19
23
21
20

Lending rate 7 pc

The Bank of England's minimum lending rate is unchanged at 7 per cent. The following are the results of Friday's Treasury Bill tender:

Applications 889m
Bids at 7.50-7.54
Bids at 7.50-7.54
Bids at 7.50-7.54
Bids at 7.50-7.54
Bids at 7.50-7.54
Bids at 7.50-7.54
Bids at 7.50-7.54
Bids at 7.50-7.54
Bids at 7.50-7.54

Allocated 230m
Received 43.7
Unallocated 846.3
New work 1250m
Next Friday 22.0m
Replace 1250m

BURGESS PRODUCTS Company (Holdings)

(Light electrical and acoustical engineers)

Encouraging Improvement
in Profitability

	1977	1976
Group Turnover	17,042,829	15,716,535
Profit before taxation	562,127	104,256
Profit after taxation	244,416	104,432
Dividend per share	3.527p	1.538p
Earnings per share	4.7p	2.1p

* Includes associated tax credit.

Extracts from Mr. W. Riddell's Statement:

The Group is showing the improved results anticipated in the interim report.

Burgess Micro Switch Company and its overseas subsidiaries have had a successful year, with all three companies improving both turnover and profit figures. Burgess Power Tools' sales have strengthened in an uncertain market and exports are buoyant in spite of import restrictions operative in some areas. Steady progress is envisaged during the current year.

Burgess Products' sales and profits improved and the current year has opened with increased demand for all products, and positive growth in both home and export markets is anticipated. Considerable emphasis has been laid on technical improvement and tooling and much new business is being derived from additional engineering facilities now available.

At Burgess Architectural Products the full impact of the recession in the U.K. construction industry has been felt, but promising export enquiries are being pursued in an effort to compensate for the depressed home market.

Burgess Industrial Silencing has again incurred losses, albeit lower than last year, and every effort is being made to speed its return to profitable trading with further improvements being expected in the current year.

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Edward Edman

40 Abchurch Lane, London EC4A 3DF

LONDON PARIS BRISTOL

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Gilts: looking beyond the short-term

Their appetites whetted by the November banking figures and greater optimism on the pay front, the institutions had their feet straight-backed in the trough last week for an early Christmas dinner. In gross terms it looks as if the authorities may have got rid of around £700m of gilt-edged stock, though it may well be that net sales were substantially less.

The assumption, anyway, is that despite a large public sector borrowing requirement, the authorities have now tied up the December money supply situation very satisfactorily. And, given the year-end replenishment of institutional liquidity they should be fairly well set to keep the funding programme rolling.

Whether or not a small cut in MLR will be seen as a desirable come-on will probably depend on events. But ahead of the holiday the authorities may well shy away from the idea and should find the discount market tight enough this week to make their views clear if necessary.

The real question about the current gilt market rally is, of course, whether it can in fact travel all that far. The market has started encouragingly to look at 1978-79 prospects over recent weeks and, by and large, takes a cautious view. The main concern is the potential pressure on money supply as economic growth gathers momentum, and, in the second half of 1978, the possibility of fresh upward acceleration in the retail price index.

That said, general opinion is probably that, barring a wages explosion, the downside risk in long dated stock is limited and that the upside potential could still be reasonable. If the wages policy goes better than expected.

More difficult to judge is the market's likely response if the balance of payments deteriorates sharply, thanks, say, to increasing import penetration, sluggish exports, or the reversal of this year's favourable capital movements.

Technically, a deterioration could help the control of the money supply. But for the gilt market, a great deal would almost certainly depend on how investors read the causes of any deterioration. The reality of seeing that the North Sea defences were anything but impenetrable could be traumatic.

Dividends

Another year of controls?

The search for ways around dividend control has lost some of its urgency recently as companies have increasingly come to look to the easing of controls next July as being an early enough opportunity to correct some of the dividend anomalies that have arisen during the era of restraint. Stock market analysts have for some time now been basing share assessments very largely on assumptions about the likely pay-outs that will occur when controls are removed. But are they premature?

The Treasury evidence to the Wilson Committee shows that Whitehall recognises that dividend restraint distorts capital markets unduly. But control of dividends has been inextricably linked in the minds of politicians with control of pay. The assumption that dividends will be freed has been based on the belief that pay restraint will end next year, and that it would, in any case, require new legislation to extend the present controls. It now appears, however, that Mr Healey is intent upon a Phase Four, in which case the City might have to concede the possibility—at this stage it clearly is no more—that it would not be politically permissible to extend pay restraint for another year while companies are freely doubling or tripling dividend payments.

In the meantime, however, not all companies have abandoned the search for loopholes. Last week Electronic Rentals came up with a more than doubled dividend as part of its hostile takeover of the facility hire firm Philips Industries. Philips had already said it did not want the bid to succeed and was only making it to comply with Takeover Panel requirements when it raised its stake from just under to just over 30 per cent of ER. The question, of course, was why, if Philips did not want the bid to succeed, it should have spent £185,000 increasing its shareholding.

As a result of the dividend increase, satisfied themselves that the Commission did not intend—as it appeared they had—to exclude compensation for pain and suffering from their proposed award, the French Ministry of Finance in the Rue de Rivoli, Paris, has taken it in vain to protest in the street at the measures imposed last month by Raymond Barre, the Prime Minister, to hold down food prices.

Philips' gross income from ER will be about £900,000 higher than it was previously, and because of all these contortions ER's share price has gone up from 99p to 120p, adding a fifth to the capital value of Philips' investment, or almost £51m.

US bids

The momentum builds up

United Kingdom exchange control restrictions are plainly not blunting the keenness of British companies for a United States presence with the path beaten by the likes of Racal, Bechtel and Turner & Newall over the past year gaining momentum in the past week or so.

This Unilever is deep in talks with National Starch, the acquisition of which would fundamentally alter the structure of the group, Hanson Trust is beavering away in its United States operations with a possible merger that could lead to a food group developing with sales of \$1,000m a year. BOC is stepping up its Airco stake (which it discloses below) and potentially most exciting of all GEC has reactivated its United States aspirations in a big way.

Clearly, then, the attractions of the world's largest (and by international standards still fast-growing) market at a time when Wall Street and the dollar are flat on their back are too good an opportunity to miss. The paradox is that despite all the grumblings about exchange control financing United States acquisitions appears to be the last thing to worry about.

The reason for this is that United States capital markets are more than happy to lend against United States assets but are extremely wary about lending to overseas companies to develop their United States business from the bottom. The private placement market in the United States has an almost bottomless capacity to fund overseas acquisitions of United States assets.

That is the route United Biscuits, for instance, has used to fund its United States operations and Unilever will almost certainly tap this market for its National Starch purchase rather than use the American quote of Unilever NV, its Dutch arm.

As the Opec ministers prepare for the 13th meeting in Venezuela, even the hardliners cannot ignore the evidence of the depressed state of their industry. Demand for oil in the main industrialised countries of Europe, North America and Japan is rising only slowly at a time when the new oilfields of Alaska and the North Sea are increasing their output day by day. Between them these two sources will produce over two million barrels of oil a day that previously would have been bought from Opec members.

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The Euro-sterling bond issues, discussed in this column last week, seem to have been first swallows rather than a true return of summer. If fixed interest borrowing by British companies. When, however, such borrowing does return it will be all the more important to remove the present anomaly created by local authority borrowing in the fixed interest market.

Since it is perfectly easy to do away with the distinction which local authorities create in this market, while at the same time cutting public expenditure painlessly and at a stroke, it is greatly to be hoped that the reform can be made. The distortion arises because for reasons that are not wholly logical the market takes the view that local authorities must have a worse credit rating than central government itself.

By extension, even the best British company borrowing domestically has to have a marginally worse rating than the local authority, for otherwise the rating system would appear not to be internally consistent.

The result once again will be that good companies will pay a greater price for fixed interest money than would be the case if their credit ratings were directly compared with the ultimately safe borrower, namely the British Government.

In practice borrowing by a local authority in this country is as safe as any lending can be. West Ham was the last local authority to default and that was in the mid-1920s. Successive Chancellors have said in the most solemn terms that, although local authority debt is not gilt-edged, in practice no government would now allow them to default. So why do local authorities have to pay a clear 1 to 2 per cent over the government rate for their money?

Many and various are the reasons given. It is said that people remember that the Mersey Docks and Harbour Board was allowed to go; or are nervous because of what happened in New York. But the supposed inequity which the Mersey Docks was precisely that people had been led to believe

over time that the harbour company was as secure as a local authority and were shocked to discover that it was not. And, unlike New York, local authorities here may not borrow for revenue, as opposed to capital expenditure, and they have their capital expenditure tightly controlled by central government through the procedure of requiring loan sanction for almost everything.

More plausibly, it is suggested that lines of local authority debt are less marketable because the issues are smaller. Coupled with the fact that capital appreciation in local authority paper is liable to capital gains tax which is not the case with gilt-edged held for more than one year, this may well be a factor which accounts for the market rating for this kind of borrowing. If that is so, the solution to the problem is simple.

Local authority associations have long represented that the capital gains concession for gilts should be extended to this debt which is much simpler solution is to abolish local

authority borrowing as such entirely. These funds could be provided to local authorities by extending the present scope of the Public Works Loan Board.

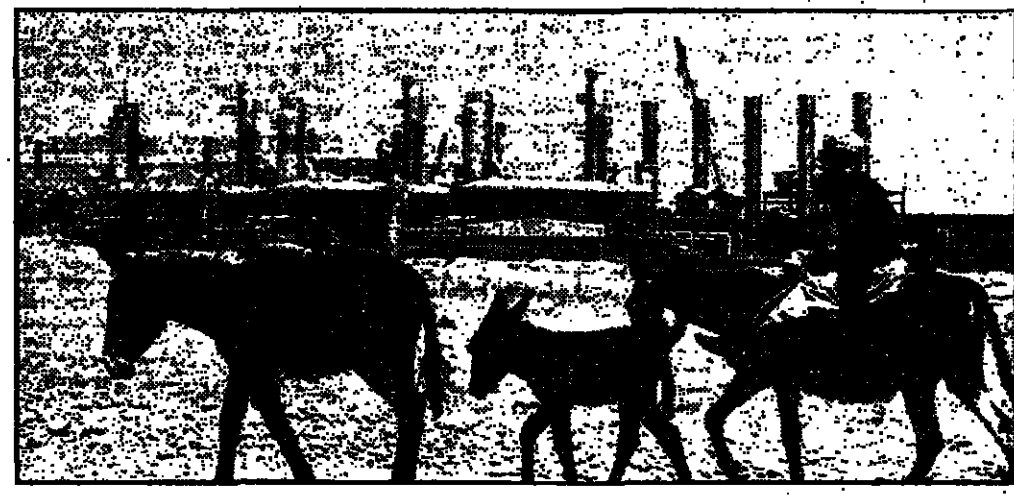
The net effect on the real public sector borrowing requirement would be nil. The investment public would simply be offered fewer local authority bonds and more gilt-edged stock. The problems about marketability and capital gains would have been "finessed". The marginal effect on the price at which the Government could sell its debt would be insignificant.

Some would object that this would be a further erosion of the independence of local authorities. But regulation by central government circular has become so extensive in financial and other areas in recent years that in reality most of that independence has already been eroded. Meanwhile, if the cost of local authority debt could be reduced by an average of 1 percentage point, that would have saved some £250m of unproductive government expenditure.

Hugh Stephenson

Local authority debt: a solution to the problem

Opec in a changed world



Old and new on an Iranian oilfield. Iran has joined those in Opec who are against any large increase in oil prices.

The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec) meets in Caracas next week. Roger Vielvoye explains how slow growth in demand from the Western industrialized world, coupled with the advent of new sources of oil in Alaska and the North Sea, make it likely that any price increase agreed on will be small.

Europe, too, oil companies are reducing their industrial oil and petrol prices in response to sluggish market conditions. Independent oil traders, always alert to an oil-buying bargain, normally stock up well in advance of an Opec price increase so that they can resell their purchases at the higher price in the new year. In the last three months of 1976 production in the Opec world shot to record levels as everyone in the oil industry bought up ahead of an expected price increase of 10 per cent or more.

The traders have given their own verdict on the outcome of the Opec meeting next week: they expect no dramatic increases—certainly none sufficient to justify the cost of leasing tankers and financing the oil during storage.

However, the simple economic facts of life have never in the past prevented some Opec countries from pushing for increases they could not enforce in the market place. Iraq has been noted for demanding large price rises, agreeing to a compromise on a smaller increase and then undercutting these new prices to avoid losing market share.

But Opec has suffered the traumatic effects of two-tiered pricing after the remarkable split in the organization at Qatar last year. It took six months to work out a compromise to bring the price structures of Saudi Arabia and Abu Dhabi and the remaining 11 members back into line. The predictions proved inaccurate

that the Saudis could with their massive surplus capacity force the other members into reducing their prices. The complexities of two-tiered pricing had a markedly sobering effect and it appears that no one is anxious to repeat the experience.

Even the most militant members of the majority will recognize that there could be no two-tiered pricing system in competition with these countries. However, in the new mood of moderation, that has followed two-tiered pricing it seems that the three moderates may not fully enforce their advantage and will concede a small price increase so that no one feels completely cheated.

While ministers of the Arab members of Opec will be keeping a close eye on President Sadat's peace initiative and the activities of his opponents, led by Libya, Opec sources do not think that activity in this direction will have any direct effect on pricing decisions. Sheikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani, the Saudi oil minister, has said a number of times that his continuing stand for moderation in price must be rewarded with progress towards peace in the Middle East. It has always been assumed that this message was aimed directly at Americans and observers will be watching the minister's reaction to the Sadat initiative with interest.

Depression in world oil markets is only one of the problems that will be on the minds of the 13 ministers at the conference. Almost as serious is the decline in the value of the dollar which is affecting all the members. This is certain to be a priority of discussion on the agenda once the pricing question has been settled.

Pressure is already building up within the organization to drop the dollar as the medium for calculating oil prices in favour of a system based on special drawing rights (SDRs). While this idea has many attractions and has been discussed on previous occasions when the dollar has slipped, there is an ingrained reluctance to abandon the dollar, mainly because most members are convinced that it will bounce back again.

Sources within the organization expect the debate over SDR pricing to be a long one, but think that it will end with the dollar remaining as the currency for oil pricing, but with a proviso that should its value drop again steps will be taken to switch to SDRs.

Also, the problem of oversupply and the fact that Abu Dhabi has ordered a 16 per cent cut in its production calling next year have stimulated interest in the idea of "production programming". Making planned cuts in production throughout the Opec countries to eliminate the possibility of future oil glut has been on the agenda before, but the difficulties involved in getting the members to agree on where the cuts should fall seem almost insurmountable.

at peak

"Most of the members realize that controlling production is the only way of ensuring that over-supply does not endanger the pricing system. Production programming would need to be in operation only for two years at the most, but it might take this long to work out a system acceptable to all the members", one source close to the organization said.

By 1980 most Opec members expect the North Sea and Alaskan fields to be at their peak and from then on all increases in oil demand will have to be met from fields within the control of the organization. The result, they say, must be further rises in prices.

Norcross Limited Interim Report

for the half year ended 30th September 1977

"Overall there has been a healthy advance in both sales and profits..."

J.V. Sheffield
Chairman

Highlights	Group year ending 31 March 1978	Group year ending 31 March 1977
	Half year £'000	Half year £'000 Full year £'000
Group Sales up 24.2% (Including share of Associate company sales)	97,187	78,221 173,978
United Kingdom sales up 14%	62,346	54,712 119,156
Exports up 13.3%	13,676	5,873 16,475
Overseas companies sales up 27.4%	13,142	10,312 20,849
	£'000	£'000 £'000
Pre tax surplus up 22.5%	5,543	4,525 12,085
	Per share	Per share Per share
Earnings per ordinary Shareholder up 7.6%	5.55p	5.16p 13.93p
Shareholders Ordinary dividend up 6.7%	1.6p	1.5p 3.96p
External Sales per employee up 27.3%	£14,786	£11,615 £12,547

Copies of the Interim report and Group Products and Services Information available from The Company Secretary, Norcross Limited, Reading Bridge House, Reading, Berks. RG1 8PP.



Business Diary in Europe: Products of British initiative

European consumer lawyers have just spent their first EEC-financed working meeting—dissecting the Commission's draft directive on product liability.

And it is all about the initiative of David Teuch, who is legal officer of the Consumers' Association and Jimmy Young's right-hand man on the EEC radio law raised by BBC radio listeners.

Teuch secured approval, and finance, for the new European Consumer Law Group on the day that the EEC's environmental and consumer affairs services were moving offices. The head of service could scarcely find a chair on which to sit while he considered the proposition, but the favourable decision he gave may pay large dividends in future through the European courts.

The lawyers' first meeting has resulted in seven proposed amendments to the draft directive which are announced today. Among the most ambitious suggestions are that consumers should have to prove a link between the damage for which they are claiming compensation, but only the probability of its existence.

Another recommendation which goes beyond the British Law Commission's proposals on the subject is that there should be compulsory insurance for all product liability and compensation funds to make good any default, so that victims can be guaranteed full payment of any damages they win.

returned to Belfast with promises of exploratory visits early in the new year.

Parades of the trades are a daily feature these days in front of the French Ministry of Finance in the Rue de Rivoli, Paris, has taken it in vain to protest in the street at the measures imposed last month by Raymond Barre, the Prime Minister, to hold down food prices.

Now it could be the turn of the restaurateurs to join the marches. The latest set of retail price figures—covering a period before the new Barre measures came into force—shows that food prices were already dropping back and that the new measures of the index are the services, including the restaurateurs. So last week Barre called in the two presidents of the

It is proving embarrassing for a growing number of businesses: a group of workers opens an inquiry to see if they have broken the law—and orders the withdrawal of their passports to make sure that they remain on hand.

It has affected, among others, Nino Rovelli, chairman of the chemical group Società Italiana Resine, Mario Barone and Giovanni Guidi, joint managing directors of Banca Di Roma and Giuseppe Aracchi, former director general of Italcasse, the central institute for the savings banks.

organizations which represent the service industries to give them a talking to.

It is reported that they were full of righteous indignation. They pointed out that even in France had gone up by only 3.5 per cent over the year, less than the index as a whole.

Barre, who has the reputation of being the best economist in France, was not moved. He 1970. He was able to point out the index had gone up by 88 per cent, while the service figure alone had gone up by 94 per cent.

Hotels and restaurants, he could show, were the runaway French champions when it came to price increases. Their prices had gone up by 122.5 per cent since 1970 and this year alone they were charging an average of 10 per cent more already.

It has affected, among others, Nino Rovelli, chairman of the chemical group Società Italiana Resine, Mario Barone and Giovanni Guidi, joint managing directors of Banca Di Roma and Giuseppe Aracchi, former director general of Italcasse, the central institute for the savings banks.

The magistrates can point out that several leading figures in the scandals of past years escaped arrest by going abroad, such as the financier Michele Sindona and Camillo Crociani,



Raymond Barre: next-rate restaurateurs?

[illegible]

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PEACEFUL BUT INTERESTING TO £3,500

The home is one of those rare places where you can relax without making a fuss. The house is a lovely Victorian property with a large garden and a swimming pool. The house is situated in a quiet residential area and is perfect for a family or a couple. The house is available for sale at a very reasonable price. For more information, please contact the estate agent.

UNUSUAL CAREER PROSPECTS

After a 4-6 weeks training period you'll be able to deal with the legal system. You'll be able to handle all the legal work of a law firm. This is a unique opportunity for a person who is interested in the law. The training is intensive and covers all aspects of legal work. The salary is competitive and includes benefits. For more information, please contact the training provider.

ASSISTANT TO MANAGING DIRECTOR TO £3,800

75% of the job is administrative. The job involves a lot of paperwork and dealing with clients. The assistant to the managing director will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company. The job is a challenging one and requires a high level of organization and communication skills. The salary is £3,800 per annum. For more information, please contact the company.

P.A./PERSONNEL £2,500, MAYNERS 10021

Staff secretarial of Junior Personnel. The job involves a lot of paperwork and dealing with clients. The P.A. will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company. The job is a challenging one and requires a high level of organization and communication skills. The salary is £2,500 per annum. For more information, please contact the company.

ASSIST SALES MANAGER WITH BASIC GERMAN

Nice job for intelligent person. The job involves a lot of paperwork and dealing with clients. The assistant sales manager will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company. The job is a challenging one and requires a high level of organization and communication skills. The salary is £3,500 per annum. For more information, please contact the company.

SECRETARIAL

GOOD DEAL AT £3,800

Here's your opportunity to join a P.A. company. The job involves a lot of paperwork and dealing with clients. The P.A. will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company. The job is a challenging one and requires a high level of organization and communication skills. The salary is £3,800 per annum. For more information, please contact the company.

DIRECTOR'S SECRETARY £4,000

Use of a company car. The job involves a lot of paperwork and dealing with clients. The director's secretary will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company. The job is a challenging one and requires a high level of organization and communication skills. The salary is £4,000 per annum. For more information, please contact the company.

ARE YOU VERSATILE? AUDIO/SHORTLAND SECRETARY £3,400

Two young partners of this production company are looking for a secretary. The job involves a lot of paperwork and dealing with clients. The secretary will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company. The job is a challenging one and requires a high level of organization and communication skills. The salary is £3,400 per annum. For more information, please contact the company.

PERSONALITY P.A. £3,500

Primarily to assist demanding and very busy executive. The job involves a lot of paperwork and dealing with clients. The P.A. will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company. The job is a challenging one and requires a high level of organization and communication skills. The salary is £3,500 per annum. For more information, please contact the company.

PRIVATE SECRETARY £3,750

He is the Top Man—responsible for the day-to-day running of the company. The private secretary will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company. The job is a challenging one and requires a high level of organization and communication skills. The salary is £3,750 per annum. For more information, please contact the company.

GOOD ORGANISER £3,500 NEG.

Free income, 4 weeks holiday. The job involves a lot of paperwork and dealing with clients. The good organiser will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company. The job is a challenging one and requires a high level of organization and communication skills. The salary is £3,500 per annum. For more information, please contact the company.

SECRETARIAL

LIAISON WITH PARIS! £3,000

Play an important role in this exciting new company. The liaison with Paris will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company. The job is a challenging one and requires a high level of organization and communication skills. The salary is £3,000 per annum. For more information, please contact the company.

STOCKBROKING £3,000

Improve yourself in the financial world. The stockbroker will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company. The job is a challenging one and requires a high level of organization and communication skills. The salary is £3,000 per annum. For more information, please contact the company.

DRAMATIC ART

The men in question are responsible for the day-to-day running of the company. The dramatic art will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company. The job is a challenging one and requires a high level of organization and communication skills. The salary is £3,000 per annum. For more information, please contact the company.

MANAGERIAL SECRETARY TO £3,500 + £350

Very much a hands-on post. The managerial secretary will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company. The job is a challenging one and requires a high level of organization and communication skills. The salary is £3,500 per annum. For more information, please contact the company.

PA/TRAINER STOCKBROKER

A unique chance to learn the stock market. The P.A./trainer stockbroker will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company. The job is a challenging one and requires a high level of organization and communication skills. The salary is £3,000 per annum. For more information, please contact the company.

CHELSEA

An excellent opportunity for a fast working individual. The Chelsea will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company. The job is a challenging one and requires a high level of organization and communication skills. The salary is £3,000 per annum. For more information, please contact the company.

SECRETARIAL

SHORTHAND OBSOLETE £3,500

This international company is seeking new secretaries. The shorthand obsolete will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company. The job is a challenging one and requires a high level of organization and communication skills. The salary is £3,500 per annum. For more information, please contact the company.

CUSTOMER RELATIONS £3,500

Place ahead in this exciting new company. The customer relations will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company. The job is a challenging one and requires a high level of organization and communication skills. The salary is £3,500 per annum. For more information, please contact the company.

LIAISON, PUBLISHING £3,500

Assist the young Director. The liaison, publishing will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company. The job is a challenging one and requires a high level of organization and communication skills. The salary is £3,500 per annum. For more information, please contact the company.

MUCH MORE P.A. TO £3,500

Promotion to P.A. The much more P.A. will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company. The job is a challenging one and requires a high level of organization and communication skills. The salary is £3,500 per annum. For more information, please contact the company.

KIND & GENTLE BOSS

Really want to delegate to you. The kind & gentle boss will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company. The job is a challenging one and requires a high level of organization and communication skills. The salary is £3,000 per annum. For more information, please contact the company.

FASHION/DESIGN TO £3,500

You could inspire your boss. The fashion/design will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company. The job is a challenging one and requires a high level of organization and communication skills. The salary is £3,500 per annum. For more information, please contact the company.

SECRETARIAL

MANAGEMENT TRAINEE £3,500 PLUS

A new exciting and well-known company. The management trainee will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company. The job is a challenging one and requires a high level of organization and communication skills. The salary is £3,500 per annum. For more information, please contact the company.

HELP CANADIAN MARKETING DIRECTOR FIND HIS FEET

He needs a key department. The help Canadian marketing director will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company. The job is a challenging one and requires a high level of organization and communication skills. The salary is £3,500 per annum. For more information, please contact the company.

SENIOR P.A. AT UP TO £4,500

Newly appointed Director. The senior P.A. will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company. The job is a challenging one and requires a high level of organization and communication skills. The salary is £4,500 per annum. For more information, please contact the company.

CLERICAL ASSISTANT

needed for catering manager. The clerical assistant will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company. The job is a challenging one and requires a high level of organization and communication skills. The salary is £3,000 per annum. For more information, please contact the company.

COLLEGE LEADER KEEN TO GET AHEAD

The college leader will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company. The job is a challenging one and requires a high level of organization and communication skills. The salary is £3,000 per annum. For more information, please contact the company.

VARIED & RESPONSIBLE ROLE AT MERCHANT BANK

Two lively young executives. The varied & responsible role at merchant bank will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company. The job is a challenging one and requires a high level of organization and communication skills. The salary is £3,000 per annum. For more information, please contact the company.

LIVERPOOL ST. £3,800

Senior secretary recruited by Liverpool St. The senior secretary will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company. The job is a challenging one and requires a high level of organization and communication skills. The salary is £3,800 per annum. For more information, please contact the company.

MOTOR CARS

Puffin Bridge Motor Company Ltd.

1975 Volvo 1800 ES. The motor car will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company. The job is a challenging one and requires a high level of organization and communication skills. The salary is £3,000 per annum. For more information, please contact the company.

VOLVO ENTHUSIASTS

This recently been model is exceptional and features. The Volvo enthusiasts will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company. The job is a challenging one and requires a high level of organization and communication skills. The salary is £3,000 per annum. For more information, please contact the company.

ROVER 2600 BRAND NEW MODEL

Brilliant Brown, fitted power steering, electric windows, radio, wind glass, fog lamps. The Rover 2600 will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company. The job is a challenging one and requires a high level of organization and communication skills. The salary is £3,000 per annum. For more information, please contact the company.

WANTED BMW AND MERCEDES

Superior late low mileage examples only. The wanted BMW and Mercedes will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company. The job is a challenging one and requires a high level of organization and communication skills. The salary is £3,000 per annum. For more information, please contact the company.

CITROEN PALLAS

1975 Citroen Pallas. The Citroen Pallas will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company. The job is a challenging one and requires a high level of organization and communication skills. The salary is £3,000 per annum. For more information, please contact the company.

DAIMLER ROVER

1975 Daimler Rover. The Daimler Rover will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company. The job is a challenging one and requires a high level of organization and communication skills. The salary is £3,000 per annum. For more information, please contact the company.

FERRARI 308

1975 Ferrari 308. The Ferrari 308 will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company. The job is a challenging one and requires a high level of organization and communication skills. The salary is £3,000 per annum. For more information, please contact the company.

MERCEDES 250 SE 1967

1967 Mercedes 250 SE. The Mercedes 250 SE will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company. The job is a challenging one and requires a high level of organization and communication skills. The salary is £3,000 per annum. For more information, please contact the company.

MG GT V8

1975 MG GT V8. The MG GT V8 will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company. The job is a challenging one and requires a high level of organization and communication skills. The salary is £3,000 per annum. For more information, please contact the company.

LOTUS ELITE 504

1975 Lotus Elite 504. The Lotus Elite 504 will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company. The job is a challenging one and requires a high level of organization and communication skills. The salary is £3,000 per annum. For more information, please contact the company.

PRINCESS 2200 HL

1975 Princess 2200 HL. The Princess 2200 HL will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company. The job is a challenging one and requires a high level of organization and communication skills. The salary is £3,000 per annum. For more information, please contact the company.

TRIUMPH STAG

1975 Triumph Stag. The Triumph Stag will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company. The job is a challenging one and requires a high level of organization and communication skills. The salary is £3,000 per annum. For more information, please contact the company.

WANTED

Mercedes 250 SE 1967. The wanted Mercedes 250 SE 1967 will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company. The job is a challenging one and requires a high level of organization and communication skills. The salary is £3,000 per annum. For more information, please contact the company.

SITUATIONS WANTED

Middle East Marketing Specialist. The situations wanted Middle East Marketing Specialist will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company. The job is a challenging one and requires a high level of organization and communication skills. The salary is £3,000 per annum. For more information, please contact the company.

FLAT SHAKING

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Swiss luxury flat, share own room. The flat shaking will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company. The job is a challenging one and requires a high level of organization and communication skills. The salary is £3,000 per annum. For more information, please contact the company.

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RENTALS

GEORGE KNIGHT & PARTNERS

SPECIALIST AGENTS FOR RENTALS IN ALL LONDON DISTRICTS NORTH OF THE THAMES. The rentals will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company. The job is a challenging one and requires a high level of organization and communication skills. The salary is £3,000 per annum. For more information, please contact the company.

WICKHAMPTON, N.W.5

A small first floor flat with wide ranging views over the Heath. The Wickhampton, N.W.5 will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company. The job is a challenging one and requires a high level of organization and communication skills. The salary is £3,000 per annum. For more information, please contact the company.

RENTS PARK, N.W.5

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